

## Blow for Botha mars announcement of election

# South African ambassador to London quits

By Andrew McEwen and Michael Hornsby

Pretoria's ambassador to London, Dr Denis Worrall, announced yesterday that he would resign his post in London and return to South Africa.

While refusing to confirm speculation that he will fight President P W Botha's National Party in the election, he said: "For some time now my government has known that it has been my wish to return to South Africa and re-enter national public life."

Dr Worrall, aged 51, an eloquent defender of Pretoria's policies, has been described as a "close liberal". A Cape Town newspaper suggested he would join a rebellious faction of the National Party which demands quicker reform of apartheid.

A slender hint of his political views was included in his statement yesterday. "The international experience of the last four years has convinced me more than ever that South Africa has a great future and I would like to make my contribution to its realisation. In particular, I believe that this is a time for bridge-

builders within all communities in South Africa to make themselves heard."

Dr Worrall, who began his mission to London in 1984, informed the British government of his intentions on Thursday. Using a procedure known as "letters of recall", he wrote to the Queen but addressed the letter to the Foreign Office.

Whitehall sources said the letter contained the date of his departure, but neither the Foreign Office nor the Embassy would reveal it.

His staff said that he was still at his desk yesterday and remained head of the mission. His Romanian-born wife Anita and the younger two of their three sons, Linden, Christopher and Dean, were still in Britain.

Dr Worrall's time in Britain has been marked by a deterioration in relations between Whitehall and Pretoria, especially when Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, made a futile trip to South Africa last year.

Dr Worrall said: "I set myself the task of raising the level of debate of the issues which South Africa poses and which arise in UK-South Africa relations."

"I have tried to convey two important points of view. Firstly, that sanctions do not work, and secondly, that answers to South Africa's problems must be found within South Africa itself."

It is thought that he may decide to pit his considerable debating and political skills against either the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, in the Cape constituency of Helderberg, or the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, in Port Natal.

The ambassador's decision to quit, reported as a strong possibility in a splash front-page story in the *Cape Times*, was confirmed a few hours later by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr P. W. Botha.

Dr Worrall is a shrewd and ambitious man, and if he has decided to run as an independent, it is unlikely that he would have done so unless he reckoned he had a real chance.

It is believed here that he may have been assured of financial backing in his election campaign from disgruntled Afrikaner and English businessmen who share his frustration with the slow pace of the government's movement away from apartheid.

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Dr Denis Worrall at the South African embassy yesterday.

## How the bell tolled for Milne

By Michael McCarthy

The tinkle of a spoon being tapped against a glass sounded the news to the senior executives of the BBC that Mr Alastair Milne, their director-general, had been summarily dismissed.

Mr Marmaduke Hussey, chairman of the corporation's board of governors, used the technique of the best man at the wedding breakfast to call the BBC hierarchy to attention to listen to the announcement of their leader's fall.

As he stood up to speak on Thursday in the sixth floor executive suite at the BBC Television Centre in Shepherd's Bush, the audience, which consisted of two groups: the governors of the BBC, who were aware that Mr Milne was being fired; and the corporation's senior staff, who were not.

Mr Hussey quickly enlightened them. The director-general, he announced, "has resigned for personal reasons."

It was a dramatic end to a dramatic morning. For more than three hours 11 of the 12 governors (one was abroad on business) had sat through a board meeting with Mr Milne knowing what he had no inkling of at the close of business his head would be demanded on a platter.

They knew because the men who had decided to dismiss him, Mr Hussey and his vice-chairman, the former Labour minister, Lord Barmen, had told them so as they met for the informal gathering at 9 am that precedes the fortnightly governors' meeting at 9.30.

They were the three "national" governors: Dr James Kincaid, a Belfast headmaster (Northern Ireland); Mr Watson Peat, a Strathgordon farmer (Scotland); and the newly-appointed Mr John Peary, a Brecon veterinary surgeon (Wales); the former British Ambassador to Moscow, Sir Curtis Keeble, and the former general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Sir John Boyd; Miss Daphne Park, the principal of Somerville College, Oxford, Lady Parkes, wife of the vice-chancellor of Leeds

University, and Miss Jocelyn Barrow, a London educationist; and the Earl of Harewood. The remaining governor, Mr Malcolm McAlpine of the construction firm family, was away on business in the United States.

The full board meeting that followed is one these individuals are unlikely to forget. They sat down with Mr Milne in the square conference room on the Television Centre's seventh floor, and for three hours and twenty minutes carried on with business as normal knowing the meeting was to be his last.

Senior members of the board of management who were present, including Mr Alan Protheroe, the assistant director-general, and Mr Michael Grade, the director of TV programmes, has as little idea as Mr Milne himself of what was about to happen.

It happened at ten minutes to one when the meeting finished. As the governors and senior staff went down to the sixth floor suite for lunch Mr Hussey and Lord Barmen asked Mr Milne to remain behind when the door had closed, ended his long BBC career.

It was being suggested in BBC circles yesterday that he was presented with a brutal ultimatum: resign at once, for "personal reasons", with full compensation, or face a court case.

Some senior union officials have indicated that agreement on ending practices which have been in existence for 20 years could be obtained for a further award of about four per cent.

One way out of the impasse could be for both sides to agree to a return to normal working while the whole issue of demarcations, flexibility and updating of work practices is examined by a jointly agreed working party.

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## Six lead race for top BBC 'new era' job

By Gavin Bell and Richard Evans

The BBC will spend thousands of pounds next week advertising for "suitably qualified" candidates to succeed Mr Alastair Milne as director-general.

The prevailing view is that the formal process may be a waste of time and money, since a short-list of six powerful contenders for arguably the most important job in broadcasting has already emerged.

However two positions may be at stake. The corporation is expected to break with tradition by devolving responsibility for programme output from the director-general to a new deputy.

Hence a new era of dual control of the BBC appears to be imminent, with an executive with financial and managerial skills backed up by someone with a strong editorial background.

The theory is that sharing the job would dilute the pressures that evidently contributed to Mr Milne's sudden departure on Thursday.

Two names emerged from intense speculation in BBC corridors yesterday as leading contenders. They were Mr Michael Checkland, deputy director-general and the man now stepping in for Mr Milne, and Mr Brian Wenham, the head of radio.

Mr Checkland, aged 50, is an accountant who rose to his present position in 1985 from an already influential post as director of television resources.

He is said to have gained the admiration of senior executives with his managerial flair, and his resolve to adapt the corporation to rapid changes in technology.

In a letter to *The Times* last November, Mr Checkland took issue with suggestions that British institutions had much to learn about the management of change.

He noted that in the past year the BBC had negotiated a staff reduction of 2,000, and added: "We feel the BBC knows a little about the neces-

sity and art of managing change."

Mr Wenham, aged 49, comes from the more traditional editorial school, but it was he who co-ordinated the BBC's response to the Peacock inquiry.

Formerly a journalist with Independent Television News, he rose through the BBC ranks as editor of *Panorama*, head of current affairs, controller of BBC2 and director of television programmes.

Witty and amiable, he has successfully distanced himself from the corporation's frequent seizures of internal politicking.

A likely scenario would be his appointment as deputy director-general under Mr Checkland.

A third in-house candidate is Mr John Tusa, aged 50, a television presenter recently promoted to run the BBC's external services.

Mr Jeremy Isaacs, the chief executive of Channel 4, apparently leads a list of three "outsiders".

Mr Isaacs, aged 54, began in television with Granada, and had a brief and unsuccessful career with *Panorama* in the 1960s before moving back to independent television as controller of features at Thames.

He has since gained a reputation for making high-quality programmes, but has dismissed persistent speculation in the past that he was planning to return to the BBC.

Another candidate from independent television who would be popular among BBC producers is Mr Paul Fox, managing director of Yorkshire Television.

At the age of 61 he is the oldest contender, but has a wealth of both managerial and editorial experience.

Mr Fox is familiar with the BBC, having begun his career there as a news scriptwriter in the early 1950s, and spent several years as controller of BBC1.

The third "outsider" possibility, if the BBC can afford him, is Sir Alastair. Continued on page 22, col 5

## Magazine claims Waite being held

By Juan Carlos Guzman in Beirut and Nicholas Beeston in London

Lebanese media reports said yesterday that the Church of England's envoy, Mr Terry Waite, has been seen in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley and one authoritative magazine claimed the envoy was being held against his will.

The weekly magazine, *ash-Shiraa*, published today, claims Mr Waite is being held to "force the United States and the West to respond to the demands of the captors."

The publication quotes Muslim leaders as saying Mr Waite has possibly been "abducted". Other sources in the article say Mr Waite is being held under house arrest and it quotes sources close to Muslim fundamentalists as saying Mr Waite's movements were limited by his "hosts".

because of fears of a military attack by the United States. Government sources in Beirut believe the story is mostly accurate, pointing to the publication's good contacts with Syria, Iran and the Shia community in Lebanon.

The independent *an-Nahar* newspaper and the Christian Voice of Lebanon radio said Mr Waite was seen in a convoy in the Bekaa Valley, near the town of Baalbeck.

Lambeth Palace said yesterday it was maintaining daily contact with highly-placed sources in Lebanon and that it continued to receive assurances about Mr Waite's well-being.

## BT union studies compromise move

By Tim Jones

Although Telecom is likely to indicate that it could improve on its pay offer, Mr Michael Bett, director of inland communications and the rest of senior management at Telecom are determined to introduce more flexible working than at present.

One way out of the impasse could be for both sides to agree to a return to normal working while the whole issue of demarcations, flexibility and updating of work practices is examined by a jointly agreed working party.

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Mr Milne yesterday: Brutal ultimatum from Mr Hussey

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## INSIDE

### Four hurt by bomb in Belfast

Four policemen were slightly hurt when a car bomb exploded in Belfast yesterday afternoon, one of several attacks coinciding with the signature of the "Loyalists" on a petition calling for a referendum on the Anglo-Irish agreement.

A total of 395,752 signatures were obtained for the petition, which Unionist leaders will hand in at Buckingham Palace. Details page 2

### Aquino acts

President Aquino of the Philippines has ordered the arrest of Brigadier-General Jose Zúñiga, who is believed to be one of those behind this week's attempted coup. Officers sought, page 7

### IN PART

### Joy for Swiss

Erika Hess started Swiss celebrations by winning the first gold medal of the world skiing championship in Crans Montana. Page 44

### Oxford crisis

The beleaguered Oxford Boat Race president Donald Macdonald may face a vote of no-confidence from some college captains of boats. Page 46

### Cup finale

Dennis Comer, the skipper of Stars & Stripes, and Iain Murray, his rival on Kookaburra III, begin the battle for the 1987 America's Cup. Fremantle today. Page 41

### Work perk

Is it worth having a company car? Family Money assesses the value of this popular executive perk. Family Money, pages 28 to 40

### Portfolio Gold

There is £12,000 to be won today in The Times Portfolio Gold competition - £8,000 in the weekly competition and £4,000 in the daily. Yesterday's daily prize, which totalled £12,000 because there were no winners the previous two days, was shared by three readers. Details page 3. Portfolio lists pages 23 and 27.

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## Ex-Bells chief tells of threats

By Thomson Prestice

Mr Raymond Miquel believes he has escaped the dirty tricks of big business, including the intimidation of his family.

The former chairman of Arthur Bell, the whisky company acquired by Guinness after a bruising fight 18 months ago, said yesterday: "I prefer to look forward, not back at what has happened."

Mr Miquel called in the police after his daughter's telephone was tapped during the takeover battle to tell him she was being followed and may be kidnapped.

Other "upsetting" telephone calls were received about the same time by other members of his family. Associates of the company in the US were also harassed.

Mr Miquel, who is now chairman and chief executive of the Bellhaven brewing and hotel company, would not discuss the incidents.

Mr Bill Walker, Conservative MP for the whisky-making constituency Tayside North, told *The Times* yesterday that he was followed on both sides of the Atlantic by what he took to be private investigators during the battle for Bells in 1985.

## Guinness: Yard stand by

The Fraud Squad is expected to be called in by Sir Thomas Hetherington, the Director of Public Prosecutions, to investigate aspects of the Guinness affair (Stewart Trender writes).

Yesterday both Scotland Yard and the DPP's office denied that Sir Thomas had requested detectives to begin an investigation.

However, it is understood an informal indication that the squad is likely to be involved was given to police by a member of the DPP's office this week.

Senior police sources said yesterday that an investigation seemed inevitable.

## Takeover rules to be changed

The City Takeover Panel, the watchdog body which supervises company mergers, said last night that it believed there had been material and possibly deliberate breaches of its Code in the Guinness takeover of Distillers.

It appeared also that there may have been breaches of company law, said the Panel. Last night's statement was the first from the Panel since the Government appointed inspectors to investigate the affairs of the brewing giant.

In the light of the developments since then, the Panel is making significant changes to its rules which will demand greater disclosure of dealings during future takeovers.

The Stock Exchange and the Panel have stepped up their use of computer-based surveillance systems introduced since Big Bang last October and will monitor share dealings more actively during takeover bids. This comes after widespread criticism of the City's policing of takeovers by politicians and business leaders.

The rule changes will prevent the future use of nominee names to hide illicit dealings. These appear to have been used extensively during the Guinness affair.

The union has been demanding a 10 per cent pay deal, backdated to last July, but the management has offered a package worth about seven per cent on condition the members accept changes in working practices.

Union negotiators will present them with details of talks held last night with British Telecom managers which sought a compromise on the entrenched positions both parties have adopted.

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Continued on page 22, col 2

## Jenkins joins contest for Oxford chancellorship

By John Clare

Education Correspondent

Mr Roy Jenkins yesterday became the third distinguished Oxford graduate to allow his name to be added to the list of candidates for the university chancellorship in succession to the late Earl of Stockton.

He joins Mr Edward Heath and Lord Blake. Although nominations do not close for a fortnight, the three are expected to be the principal contenders for one of the most

illustrious laurels in public life, with a history stretching back to the thirteenth century.

The electorate is confined to Oxford graduates who have paid their dues and taken out their MAs, and who can beguily or borrow a gown and present themselves at the Sheldonian Theatre on March 12 or 14. The result will be announced in Latin and the victor will hold office for life.

After his election in March 1960, Mr Harold Macmillan spoke of the pleasures of a

contest which involved "no election address, no canvassing, no speeches, no television". He said it combined the best features of a Gaudy (commemorative dinner) and a cricket match without the tedious qualities of either.

He defeated Sir Oliver (now Lord) Franks, by 1,976 votes to 1,697 in what was a spirited fight. One issue was whether, as Prime Minister, Mr Macmillan would be able to devote sufficient energy to the post at a time when, it was said, it was

"essential to have a functional chancellor". Another was the question of his "patrician" attitude to women, which led a powerful feminist lobby to oppose him.

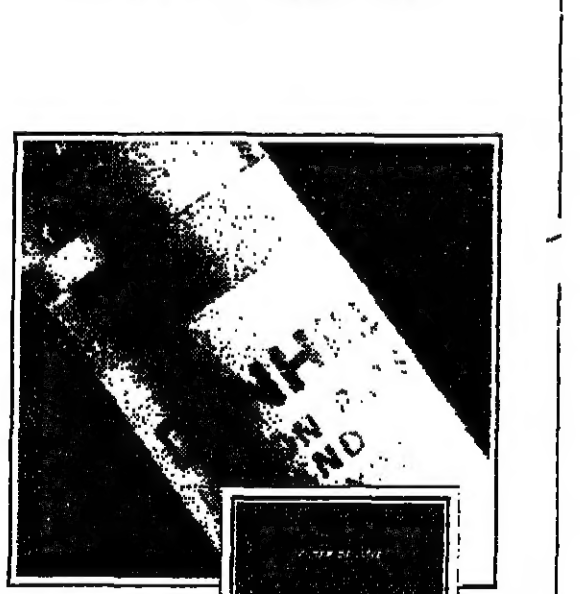
At the age of 66, Roy Harris Jenkins (it will have to be translated into Latin for the ballot paper) is the youngest of the three candidates. He was at Balliol and graduated in 1941 with first class honours in philosophy, politics and economics. He had been secretary of the Oxford Union.

Edward Richard Heath, aged 70, was a scholar at Balliol and president of the union in 1939. Robert Norman William Blake, the Provost of Queen's, also aged 70, was at Magdalen and took a first in Greats in 1938.

Two other names can be safely discounted. Lord Scarman (Brasenose, 1930) is happy as Chancellor of Warwick, while Lord Carrington, who did not go to Oxford, seems a long shot indeed.

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## The King Size from Dunhill



The style and quality of the fine gold lettering on each Dunhill King Size cigarette demonstrates the care which goes into its making.

It is the same care in tobacco selection and blending which creates the classic Dunhill taste.

Blended to your taste dunhill

LOW TO MIDDLE TAR As defined by H.M. Government STOPPING SMOKING REDUCES THE RISK OF SERIOUS DISEASES Health Departments' Chief Medical Officers



NEWS SUMMARY

# MPs call time on pub hours Bill

A private member's Bill to relax public house opening hours in England and Wales was effectively killed in the Commons yesterday after its opponents used parliamentary procedures to talk it out.

A preceding private member's Bill, designed to prevent the sale of crossbows to anyone under 17, looks set to reach the statute book after it was given an unopposed second reading. However, enough opponents of the public houses Bill spoke in that earlier debate to ensure that it continued until 12.45pm, leaving less than two hours to force a closure on the second Bill. Parliament, page 4

# BBC bars Aids clue to deaths

The BBC has promised to take full note of recommendations by the North Buckinghamshire coroner after the misadventure verdict on Mr Michael Lush, killed practising a stunt for Noel Edmonds' *Late Late Breakfast Show*.

But it says the recommendations should never be implemented. Mr Bill Cotton, managing director of BBC Television, said the corporation would not invite people to take part in "risk" programmes.

Mr Lush's mother, Mrs Vera Lush, has accepted an ex-gratia BBC payment said to be £120,000.

A father shot dead his wife and wounded his teenage son before committing suicide because he feared he had Aids. But medical tests on Michael Coles, a salesman aged 43, of Lonsdale Road, Stamford, Lincolnshire, showed he did not have the virus.

Yesterday Andrew Coles, aged 18, was seriously ill in Peterborough hospital.

Before Coles went berserk with the shotgun on Wednesday he telephoned a neighbour, telling him why he was going to kill his wife, Margaret, aged 39, and son.

Announcing what they called the number of "votes", Mr Paisley and Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Official Unionist Party, claimed that 395,752 people had signed, and there had been no complaints of the doorstep intimidation by petition canvassers that their political opponents had predicted.

# Marriages cost more

Marriage ceremonies are among services provided by registrar offices which will cost more after April 1.

The fee for giving notice of marriage will be raised to £10 from £8, that for a registrar to attend a marriage to £28 from £26, and for attending a marriage for someone who is housebound or detained, to £20 from £18.

The costs of birth, marriage and death certificates, now £1.50, will not change.

An increase in marriage fees is needed because costs exceed receipts, it was stated.

# MP was duped

Jeremy Corbyn, Labour MP for Islington North, gave £45 to a "clever confidence trickster" who posed as an IRA bomber, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mr Corbyn was approached at the House of Commons by Sean O'Regan, aged 29, who said he wanted to leave the IRA and flee the country but had no money.

O'Regan pleaded guilty to fraud, making bomb-threat statements and attempted robbery. He was jailed for four years.



# Boy in sexual assault

A teenage boy was recovering last night after being sexually assaulted by a man who approached him in an Eastbourne amusement arcade.

The boy aged 15 was enticed into the lower promenade under the pier on Thursday evening. His hands were tied together and he was forced into a storage room and suffered a "lengthy and serious sexual assault", Sussex police said.

He was further assaulted before being released after four hours. A police spokesman said: "This was a particularly nasty assault. The lad was very shocked and shaken."

He said the man, aged between 30 and 40, 5ft 8in tall, and stockily built, with brown, curly hair and a beard, was wearing a dark blue ski jacket with white stripes.

# Trident the only choice, says Younger

By Michael Evans  
Whitehall Correspondent

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, went on the offensive yesterday to "prove" that the £9.3 billion Trident missile system was the only credible option for a future independent deterrent, by publishing what he called the non-party political "facts" about the options.

Mr Younger said that a year-long investigation by the Ministry of Defence into all the other options had concluded that they were either much more expensive or

would not be ready for deployment by the mid 1990s, when the Polaris deterrent had to be replaced.

The document published yesterday immediately stung Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, into an angry rebuttal of "the facts".

Presenting the document, Mr Younger claimed that the ministry inquiry proved the Government's case, although he admitted that he was personally in favour of much closer consultation with the French over the deterrent issue. He said the possibility

of replacing Polaris with a French missile — one of the options proposed by the Alliance — had been carefully examined.

But, he said, the only possible missile, the submarine-launched M5, which was about to begin development, would not be available to Britain on the same time-scale as Trident. Furthermore, abandonment of the Trident programme would carry "considerable cost penalties".

The open government document, the third produced by the ministry on Britain's

nuclear deterrent since 1980, states that to match the credibility and effectiveness of Trident, a system based on submarine-launched cruise missiles would need 11 new submarines, carrying a total of 400 missiles.

Preliminary estimates, according to the ministry, show that the overall cost of such a programme would be twice that of Trident.

A switch to cruise would also require "several years for the design, development and production of the warhead" and that would mean either

the running on of an increasingly ineffective Polaris force or "suffering a gap of several years in our strategic deterrent capability".

Mr Younger added that the cruise alternative could also be vulnerable to the latest Russian defences.

Dr Owen said that the Alliance view was that it was not necessary for Britain to match the nuclear deterrent of the superpowers and it was a false argument that the cruise alternative to Trident would require 400 missiles and 11 new submarines.

# Four hurt as bomb blasts greet Ulster petition vote

A spate of bomb attacks slightly injured four policemen and caused considerable damage in Northern Ireland yesterday afternoon. They came as the leaders of the two Unionist parties were announcing the scale of support for their petition calling for a referendum on the Anglo-Irish agreement.

The first attack was on James Mackie's textile machinery factory in west Belfast about 3.30 when men in two cars hung two hold-alls on railings and fired five shots into the air as a warning before speeding off. Shortly after one hold-all exploded.

About the same time, a car bomb exploded outside a motor tax office in Upper Queen Street, central Belfast, only 150 yards from the city hall where the petition counts had recently concluded, and "loyalist" politicians and party workers were emerging into the street.

A telephone warning was received and police had cleared civilians from the street before the vehicle exploded. Four policemen received blast injuries but were not badly hurt.

About an hour later six armed men burst into a Chinese-owned hotel on Antrim Road in north Belfast. They planted a bomb at the back of the building and said there was a car bomb parked in front. The bomb at the back exploded without causing any injury.

At Lisburn, 10 miles away, two devices were planted in a hardware store in the centre of the town. After raising the alarm an employee is believed to have carried them into the street where one exploded.

After the chaotic and protracted election-style count at Belfast City Hall, the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, confidently predicted that the Queen would advise her ministers to heed the views of the unionist population.



When the Princess of Wales arrived in Northampton yesterday to open a community centre, she was greeted by the appeal fund president, her father, Lord Spencer's home, Althorp, is only four miles from the centre at the Abbey Baptist Church. The Princess wore a red Cossack outfit with boots and high ruffle lace collar and she carried a muff.

Mr Molyneux said that translated into UK terms, the figure was equivalent to 17 million. "I ask you, what government could ignore such a verdict?"

The total, out of a population of 1.56 million, was considerably higher than the

# Fewer arrests

The 147 detentions made under the Prevention of Terrorism Act last year in connection with Northern Ireland was the smallest number since the legislation came into force in 1974. It was nearly 50 fewer than in 1985, but almost as many as in 1984.

most optimistic organizer was predicting earlier in the day. There was no immediate reaction from the Northern Ireland Office.

The two Ulster party leaders intend to hand in the petition at Buckingham Palace the week after next.

Mr Paisley, commenting on what he called a magnificent, very satisfying and gratifying result, said that if the Government ignored the demand for a referendum, the unionist's civil disobedience campaign would have been fully vindicated and would continue.

● The Ulster Unionist MP, Mr Harold McCusker, was freed from Belfast's top security Crumlin Road jail yesterday, after spending four nights in prison for refusing to pay a £50 road-tax fine in protest at the Anglo-Irish agreement.

# Anderton 'broke promise on speech'

By Ian Smith

Mr James Anderton twice broke an undertaking not to make controversial statements, the chairman of the Greater Manchester Police Authority, said yesterday.

He was warned that if it happened again the authority would ask the Home Office to take immediate disciplinary action.

A special meeting of the authority, called to hear a report of talks held with Mr Anderton, the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, at the Home Office last Tuesday, also condemned the Prime Minister's tacit support of Mr Anderton's outspoken speech on Aids.

Mr Stephen Murphy, the chairman, said urgent talks with the Home Office had been sought after the authority felt it could no longer tolerate controversies caused by Mr Anderton's outspoken views.

Mr Murphy said that Home Office officials had been sympathetic. "Now we have some concrete assurances where before we only had verbal undertakings which twice have been broken. Now the agreement is documented and we have a firm commitment that the chief constable will consult me on issues which are going to be controversial."

The meetings will take place weekly and any potentially controversial stand will be discussed by the full authority before Mr Anderton is given permission to speak publicly.

"It is to be hoped that the Chief Constable now knows the position of this authority and sticks by his promise to avoid controversy and the limelight and just let us get on with the job of fighting crime," Mr Murphy said.

Mr John Hanscomb, Tory leader of the council, said the police monitoring committee had repeatedly shown itself to be determined to undermine the Chief Constable. He said they were heading a vendetta against Mr Anderton.

# Bonus cash for inner cities

By Richard Evans  
Political Correspondent

A bonus system for local authorities having to cope with inner city deprivation was introduced by the Government yesterday as a announced increased cash for the urban programme.

In 1987-88, £272.3 million will be shared out between 57 hard-pressed inner city authorities — £7 million more than this year — and go towards programmes to stimulate enterprise, improve the environment and encourage self-help in local areas.

But under changed rules 5 per cent of the cash will be allocated by the Department of Environment's regional offices to those councils coming up with the best projects to boost inner city areas.

The change reflects the determination of ministers to obtain cost effective use of the millions of pounds earmarked for inner cities. They want the money put into capital projects which will help to revive local economies rather than supporting community centres.

Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, said yesterday: "It is our policy to recognize good and cost-effective performance by local authorities and to direct resources where they can be of most use."

Government displeasure is reflected in urban programme grant reductions to certain local authorities, notably Liverpool and Hackney.

# Printers top wage earners

By Ronald Faux  
Employment Affairs Correspondent

Newspaper printing and publishing workers were the top manual wage earners in April 1986, receiving average gross weekly wages of £295.10, according to a survey published yesterday by the Department of Employment.

This was more than £90 more than coal miners, and far outstripped the full-time wage for men of £170.90 in all industries and services. In manufacturing, the weekly average was £178.40.

The figures, analysed by industry, show that policemen averaged £261.80, firemen £216.10 and hospital workers £248.50. While-collar rail workers earned £235.10, bank staff averaged £290.70 and non-manual air transport workers £320.70.

Women's pay still lagged behind. Hairdressing and beauty parlour staff averaged £77.30, those in medical and health services £97.90, catering £89.40, and hotel manual staff £90.70. The all-industry average for female manual workers was £104.50.

In newspapers and publishing, women manual workers received an average of £126.30, in general printing and publishing £130.80, pharmaceuticals £130.50 and transport communications £139.30. Key male groups, including electricity and gas workers, averaged between £205.30 and £207.70. Male low-earning groups included brewing workers on £150.60.

New Earnings Survey: Part C Analysis by Industry (Stationery Office: £8.95).

# Actress's wait

The Court of Appeal reserved judgement yesterday in an appeal by Nina Myskow, the *Sunday People* television critic, against the £10,000 "big bum" libel damages awarded to Charlotte Corwell, the actress, who was labelled "wally of the week".

Boeing 747

# Wing crack 'one-off' claim

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Engineers are convinced the crack found in a wing spar of a British Airways 747 jet is a "one-off" problem.

The crack was noticed in Kuwait by ground staff trying to trace a fuel leak.

All other 747s in the fleet were inspected immediately but no problems of a similar nature discovered. The damaged part is being subjected to detailed metallurgical inspection at Boeing headquarters in Seattle to try to establish why the metal fractured.

Although the Federal Aviation Authority in America and the Civil Aviation Authority in Britain are monitoring the work, no calls for increased inspection or modifications have been made.

Airlines fear that public sensitivity to any aircraft defects of any kind, fuelled by often hysterical over-reaction, could lead to a loss of confidence in the aircraft similar to that which afflicted the McDonnell Douglas DC10.

Cracks are not uncommon in all types of aircraft, although nothing similar to the one affecting the British Airways jet has happened before. When one is found the manufacturers put out an In Service Activity Report to alert all users of similar aircraft to the problem.

In any one year dozens of such reports are issued and airline engineers are constantly building up a fund of knowledge about potential problems.

One of the main problems is in establishing precisely when metal fatigue is likely to set in. As aircraft are constantly pressurized and de-pressurized there is a strain on the millions of working parts and on the structure itself that, in time, can weaken the metal and eventually lead to cracks.

Regular checks, graded between A and D depending on the detailed nature of the inspections, are made for just such cracks. When they are found the part is replaced.

The BA 747 had flown for more than 61,000 hours and had made about 16,000 take offs and landings before the crack in the wing spar appeared.

Even so that was not regarded as cause for undue concern, although passengers would not be carried on the jet until it had been replaced.

After the Comet crashes in the 1960s much was learned about metal fatigue and a system of fail-safe manufacture was built in. It led to Boeing putting three main spars into each wing, although the aircraft could fly with one and certainly would be able to operate normally with two.

Each part is also made in such a way that cracks, if they do develop, cannot spread. That is known as a "crack stopper" and is designed to prevent cracks becoming potentially dangerous.

What engineers will be trying to establish now is whether there is evidence that very old aircraft are likely to face more cracks than they can see during the regular checks, and whether there is a finite life to any jet now flying.

Already Boeing has told airlines to check for hairline cracks around the nose section every 3,000 hours with a big detailed D check every 20,000 hours.

Each time one is found, and about ten a year are reported somewhere in the world, the already encyclopaedic store of knowledge about the way metal behaves is increased.

# Pay offer to lecturers 'insulting'

Officials representing university lecturers will meet vice-chancellors on Monday to try to stave off the threat of industrial action which could mean dons refusing to mark degree examination papers this summer.

Dr John Chartres, president of the Association of University Teachers, speaking after an emergency executive meeting, last night rounded on the Government's "insulting response" of a pay increase of 10 per cent over three years. The association's original claim was for 24 per cent over two years.

However, the association is expecting a pay offer on Monday that will meet some of the main components of the claim for 24 per cent.

That may involve vice-chancellors having to divert cash towards salaries away from other areas such as equipment and research.

A special council of the association meets on February 7 to assess the offer and make a strike decision.

redundant doesn't help to sell any more cars. What we need is a policy for expansion."

The biggest job losses will be at the Cowley plant, Oxford (450) with a reduction of about 400 at Longbridge and Dreads Lane plants, in Birmingham, and 200 at the Canley headquarters and administration centre on the outskirts of Coventry. The remainder are spread over the Swindon, Witshire, pressing works, the Llanelli, Dyfed, components factory, and other minor plants.

Range Rover sales reached a record 14,494 in 1986. Sales in Britain, Range Rover's biggest market, jumped 25 per cent to 4,226.

Parliament, page 4

White collar unions at Austin Rover are understood to have told members not to cooperate with a plan announced on Thursday to make 1,265 staff redundant.

The unions are recommending that any offers of voluntary redundancy be ignored by the 10,500 staff, who have received personal letters describing the required reduction and the company's urgent need to trim costs.

Mr Paul Talbot, national officer of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, said: "Our members are very angry with the company. They feel they are paying the price for successive failures by top management. Making people

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Boeing 747

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Boeing 747



## Estate victim tells of 'revolution' cry before PC's killing

A leader of the disturbances screamed "it is fuel for the revolution" as a van was set alight on the Broadwater Farm estate in Tottenham, north London, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mr Victor Broughton, a builder, giving evidence for the prosecution at the trial of six people accused of murdering Police Constable Keith Blacklock, riotous assembly and affray, said he was told "go back home, it is not your war", as his Bedford van was seized by mobs.

Mr Broughton, aged 43, from Palmers Green, north London, was with his wife and son, aged 15, when they got caught up in the violence. They had planned to visit his daughter's boy friend on the Broadwater Farm estate.

But, as they arrived, a 30-strong crowd of masked youths pulled a car across the road ahead of them. While Mr Broughton pleaded to be allowed to drive away, the crowd started shoving his tyres.

The "frenzied" crowd was poking knives through the windows of the van and screaming at them to get out.

"I hesitated until we were sure we had a chance to get through the crowd, but they became more frenzied, they were threatening to petrol

bomb the vehicle with us in it if we did not get out."

As they abandoned the van, Mr Broughton was forced at knifepoint against a wall. He was separated from his wife and son. His cigarette lighter was stolen and minutes later a vehicle near by was set ablaze.

Mr Broughton and his family were allowed to walk free. But before he left he asked the mob not to set fire to his van. He told them it was his living. The leader replied: "Never mind, man, you will be all right with insurance."

Mr Broughton pointed out he was not insured for everything and the crowd's leader then told him: "Never mind, man, — it is fuel for the revolution."

When he returned to the scene the next day, he found his van "a virtual wreck".

The six on trial are Winston Silcott, aged 27, grocer, of Maresfield, Broadwater Farm estate; Mark Braithwaite, aged 29, unemployed, of Canonbury Villas, Islington; Engin Raghip, aged 20, unemployed, of Finsbury House, Partridge Way, Wood Green, all north London, and three juveniles, two aged 15 and one 16.

The youth aged 16 additionally denies making petrol bombs and throwing a petrol bomb, and Mr Raghip denies providing bottles to make petrol bombs.

Mr Trevor Abrahams, whose ground floor maisonette in Adams Road, Tottenham, was wrecked during the riots, said he watched helplessly as his home and car went up in flames.

He said he fled with his wife and two young children to a neighbour's house.

They decided not to try to escape on foot. "Shortly afterwards, my car was overturned and set on fire," he said.

He noticed that windows in his flat were broken and later when police led them away from the neighbour's house, Mr Abrahams' front bedroom was ablaze.

"I went back to my house the next day and it was a total wreck."

Det Sgt Colin Lockwood, of Scotland Yard's serious crimes squad, said the accused aged 16 told him during an interview that PC Blacklock's attackers charged when a blood-stained knife was held aloft.

After the killing, a man identified in court only as "N" held up the knife and said: "This is Bullman's blood."

Sgt Lockwood said: "Bullman" was West Indian slang for the police.

The officer read notes of the interview in which the youth recalled seeing PC Blacklock being chased. His pursuers were shouting: "Kill him." The hearing continues.



Wally White (left) Jean Barnacle, Geoff Mills and Susan Kane (sitting) adding their own shine to another new Jaguar at the Coventry plant yesterday (Photograph: John Rogers).

## Jaguar sales rise and shine

A Jaguar or Daimler deserves the sort of final hand polish and inspection that Wally, Jean, Geoff and Susan give to every car that leaves the Coventry production line.

Output is now running at more than 1,000 a week, but still every car is carefully polished, and every finger mark removed, before being sprayed with a protective wax coating. That remains important as more than half Jaguar's production goes to North America.

While robots now help to weld the new XJ6 bodies together, Jaguar is recruiting new staff for the traditional skills of wood polishing and leather cutting.

## Methadone verdict

## Drugs ban order on doctor

The General Medical Council yesterday found Dr Ann Dally guilty of serious professional misconduct and forbade her to prescribe or possess controlled drugs for 14 months.

Professor Sir Herbert Duthie, committee chairman, said his decision was because of Dr Dally's "blatant failure to heed warnings" conveyed at her previous appearance before the committee in 1983 in relation to similar matters.

He gave her 28 days to appeal after which the no-controlled drugs order comes into effect.

After the hearing Dr Dally, aged 60, said: "I am very concerned about my patients. I may appeal. I will have a meeting next week to decide."

Her husband, Mr Philip Egerton, said: "It is an extraordinary decision. It shows how out of touch the GMC committee are with reality. It shows how little understanding of the problem of long-term drug-addiction they have."

Dr Dally was found guilty of "irresponsibly" supplying methadone to a patient in return for fees. She treated the man, identified only as Mr A, for three and a half years.

But she was cleared on a second similar charge relating to other patients. The hearing was told that a medical controversy about the treatment of long-term drug addicts was at the heart of the case against the Harley Street doctor.

Mr William Gage, QC, for

Dr Dally, added that she had "the misfortune" to get caught up in the dispute.

Mr Gage told the GMC the case against Dr Dally rested on controversial Department of Health and Social Security guidelines on the treatment of heroin addicts.

He said the guidelines represented a "school" of medical opinion which believes heroin addicts receiving the substitute drug methadone from doctors should have their doses reduced rapidly.

Treatment should last no longer than six months and should leave the patient drug free.

But Mr Gage said the guidelines were forcefully opposed by many doctors treating long-term heroin addicts.

## Portfolio Gold—Overdraft will be paid off

Mr James Mollett had no work yesterday so he bought The Times, did Portfolio Gold, and ended the day £4,000 richer.

Mr Mollett, who will be 27 next week, and lives at Upham Park Road, Chiswick, west London, said: "I have just finished a year of accountancy which I did not like, and now I am a temporary truck driver."

The win would allow him to pay off his overdraft and begin organizing overland trips for tourists, he said.

He shares the £12,000 prize, which had accumulated because there were no winners on Wednesday or Thursday.

Mr Ken Martin, aged 55, of Badger's Way, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire, was thrilled with his £4,000.

Yesterday's third winner was a Buckinghamshire woman who did not wish to be named.

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Mr James Mollett will start organizing overland tours.

## Student grants

## Index-linked rise 'pathetic'

By Mark Dowd, Education Reporter

An increase in the student grant of 3.75 per cent for the next academic year, in keeping with the forecast rise in inflation, was condemned last night by the National Union of Students as "travelling inadequate".

The increase, announced in the Commons by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education, means that undergraduates living away from home in 1987-88 will receive £1,972. Students based in London receive an additional allowance, entitling them to a grant of £2,330, while those who pursue their studies and remain at home will get £1,567.

Parental contribution thresholds will rise by 6.75 per cent, so that parents earning a residual income of less than £9,300 will no longer be assessed for contribution. They will, however, be expected to make a contribution

of £40, which is twice the present minimum.

The increase comes as a severe disappointment to students after an all-party committee of MPs had said in a report two weeks ago that there was an urgent need for an increase in real terms in student awards.

"We recommend that awards be increased above the general level of prices until the level approximates to the costs which students incur," the report had said.

Mr Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Ealing North and a member of the select committee on education and science, said that the award confirmed the need for an index which would monitor the costs of books and other essentials.

"Using the retail price index to calculate the level of grants is hopelessly inadequate," he said.

Miss Vicky Phillips, presi-

dent of the National Union of Students (NUS), said last night that she suspected the Government was deliberately depressing the value of grants in order to make the introduction of student loans more acceptable.

"This pathetically low increase will have about as much impact as a quick cloudburst on drought-stricken land," she said.

Inflation was likely to be nearer 5 per cent by the time the increase was paid in October, wiping out any short-term gain, she added.

NUS officials estimate that the value of the grant has declined by more than 20 per cent in real terms since 1979.

Although the Department of Education puts the figure at nearer 13 per cent, it did concede to the select committee before Christmas that the maintenance element in the mandatory award was insufficient.

The Government is conducting a review of student maintenance and its findings are expected later in the year, after more fact-finding visits to France, Sweden and Germany by Mr George Walden, Under-Secretary of State for Education.

## STUDENT GRANTS 1987/88

	Undergraduate (£)	Postgraduate (£)
Hall or lodgings:		
London	2330 (2246)	3402 (3306)
Elsewhere	1972 (1901)	2859 (2756)
Parental home	1567 (1510)	2075 (2000)

Rates for 1986/87 in brackets.

## Soldier is found dead at camp

A police and Army investigation was under way yesterday after a young soldier was found dead at his barracks in Kent.

Private Jeffrey Jagdith Singh, aged 17, who joined up five months ago, was found unconscious at the Sir John Moore barracks in Shorncliffe, near Folkestone. It is believed he was found hanging in lavatories at the barracks.

Police say they are treating his death as suspicious but are not looking for anyone else.

Private Singh, from Southall, west London, joined the junior infantry battalion of the Queen's Regiment in September.

It is the second time in two months the regiment has been affected by death. Last month Private Nicholas Burnup shot dead Corporal David Burnstead on a shooting range at Hythe, Kent, and then killed himself.

Private Burnup, who had been in the Army only six weeks, fired four pistol shots into the corporal's back and one into his head.

It was alleged that he had lost his temper with the corporal after being bullied. An inquest has yet to be arranged.

## Most men help to wash up

By Robin Young

More than half the men in Britain help with the washing up, but fewer than four-fifths go shopping for groceries or use a vacuum cleaner. Barely a fifth wash clothes at home.

Those conclusions are drawn from a report prepared by RMI (Research International) Ltd for the Association of Market Survey Organizations.

Older men do more housework than the young. In the 45-54 age group, 61 per cent wash up — an increase of 9 per cent since last year. In the same age group an additional 8 per cent have taken to washing clothes at home, bringing the total to 19 per cent.

More than a fifth of a nationally representative sample of 1,008 men claimed to have done painting or decorating at home within the previous seven days. Yet only 8 per cent said they enjoyed the work. Similarly of the one fifth who claimed to have mended furniture, or an appliance in the past week, only 4 per cent derived pleasure.

Most popular activities were working on the car (10 per cent) and gardening (26 per cent).

## Dying man awarded £97,895

A welder who has been given a maximum of two years to live after contracting a deadly disease at work, was awarded £97,895 damages in the High Court yesterday.

Deputy Judge Kidwell, QC, making the award, said that Michael Jackson, aged 46, a father of two, must suffer "the agony of contemplating an early death and leaving his wife, children and grandchildren".

He is suffering from a "strange and terrible" condition called berylliosis, a form of breathlessness similar to asbestosis, after being exposed to beryllium fumes at his workplace from 1969 to 1979.

His former employers, Telcon Metals, of Manor Royal, Crawley, West Sussex, admitted liability, but had contested the amount of damages. They were ordered to pay the damages and costs.

The judge said Mr Jackson was practically confined to his home at Pine Court, Langley Green, Crawley. He was bitter with his former employers for "poisoning" him and when told by doctors he would soon be dead said: "It was like a kick in the teeth. You wonder how you are going to die. It is not easy to sleep at nights."

Mr Clive Soley, the MP for Hammersmith, who also involved a Fulham MP, Mr Nick Raynsford.

Mr Raynsford praised Lester yesterday He said: "This is wonderful. It has put a stop to any premature work by British Rail. All credit to him for his hard work and good sense."

But Lester has not finished yet. He said: "I want to apply for the area to be fully protected as a nature reserve."

"I'm going to lobby the House of Lords — specially members of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds."

## Boy forces change in tunnel Bill

Lobbying by a London schoolboy has forced a late change to the Channel Tunnel Bill and saved a wildlife haunt.

Lester Holloway, aged 16, gained the support of two MPs after bulldozers started tearing up heathland next to Wormwood Scrubs playing field, which is part of a mile-long haven for wildlife in central London.

The area is owned by British Rail and was earmarked as the site of a depot for Channel tunnel trains.

But now the Channel Tunnel Bill has been changed at the committee stage and no

work can begin on the land without consulting Hammersmith council and the London Wildlife Trust.

Lester, a keen birdwatcher who is a pupil at Burlington Danes School, Shepherd's Bush, said: "The law allowed bulldozers to flatten part of the best wasteland in London, north of Little Scrubs, this month. It is high time politicians changed their ways."

"When I heard that Scrubs Wood was threatened, I compiled a detailed report on its wildlife. I sent it to everyone I could think of who might help me save the woods."

He lobbied the support of Mr Clive Soley, the MP for Hammersmith, who also involved a Fulham MP, Mr Nick Raynsford.

Mr Raynsford praised Lester yesterday He said: "This is wonderful. It has put a stop to any premature work by British Rail. All credit to him for his hard work and good sense."

But Lester has not finished yet. He said: "I want to apply for the area to be fully protected as a nature reserve."

"I'm going to lobby the House of Lords — specially members of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds."

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# Top lawyer set to join Kinnock's Lords team

By Sheila Gunn, Political Staff

Mr Alexander Irvine, QC, a leading authority on industrial relations law, is tipped to be one of five new Labour peers asked for by Mr Neil Kinnock.

The peerage would be a reward for Mr Irvine's work in helping the Labour Party to contest legal challenges in the High Court, such as the expulsion of supporters of Militant Tendency.

He would also be a leading contender for the post of Lord Chancellor if Labour wins the next general election.

Mr Irvine, who is aged 46, became a recorder in 1985 and was formerly a lecturer in law at the London School of Economics. In the 1970 general election he contested the marginal Conservative seat of Hendon North for Labour, but was beaten by the right-wing Mr John Goss.

If raised to the peerage, he could expect to become a frontbench spokesman within months.



Mr Alexander Irvine, seen as a contender for Lord Chancellor.

Another name put forward by the Labour leader to Mrs Margaret Thatcher is known to be Mr David Barnett, former general secretary of the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union and former chairman of the TUC's general council.

Mr Kinnock and Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos, Labour's leader in the Lords, are anxious to have a batch of younger working peers to help their front bench to take on the heavy legislative programme.

It is understood that letters have been sent from Downing Street to the five Labour and six Conservative supporters picked by Mrs Thatcher. The list is likely to be announced next month.

One of the Conservatives expected to be on the list is Sir Charles Johnston, aged 71, president of the National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations.

The Alliance leaders are furious that Mrs Thatcher is holding out against giving them any new peers, in spite of the support of Lord Whitelaw, Leader of the Lords, for the creation of at least one new Alliance peer to replace Lord Crawshaw of Aintree who died last summer.

The Prime Minister has created only two working Alliance peers, Lord Crawshaw and Lord Tordoff, during her time in office as against 23 Conservatives and 15 for Labour. In the honours list since 1979 she has created 67 Conservative, 27 Labour and seven Alliance peers.

## Russians 'regard Labour as losers'

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

The Soviet leadership regards Mr Neil Kinnock's Labour Party as "foolish, unbelievable and losers", a Foreign Office minister claimed last night.

Mr Timothy Renton, who was in Moscow two weeks ago, said that if betting was allowed under the new open regime in the Soviet Union, he believed Mr Mikhail Gorbachev would be putting his money on a Conservative victory.

"Not because that is what he wants - Labour would be the soft option for the Kremlin - but because he doesn't believe the British are fools either."

Mr Renton, speaking to Conservative Party supporters in Nottingham, said the Soviet Union now respected Britain. Soviet leaders listened to British views on human rights and sought to get across their attitude on arms control.

"They do so because they regard us as a serious and worthwhile country bent on economic recovery, an influential member of the Western Alliance and a frank friend of the United States."

"You would think the Soviets would welcome Kinnock and company with open arms. Instead of going out of their way to invite the Prime Minister to Moscow this spring, they would be constantly rolling out the red carpet for the disarming trip of Kinnock, Healey and Denis Davies."

"Why don't they? First, they find them foolish, second, they find them unbelievable, third, they consider them losers."

No Soviet leader was going to disarm unilaterally. "So they find incredible the attitude of Labour leaders who say 'We are giving up Polaris and Trident'."



## Dogged pursuit pays

Jacob, a German Shepherd that chased and caught a mugger and then forced the man to return a stolen handbag, with his owner, Mrs Betty Harris, yesterday.

The dog gave chase when Mrs Harris was punched to the ground by a man, who ran off with her handbag, when she was walking through a cemetery near her home in

Wallasey, Merseyside. Mrs Harris, aged 43, a mother of two, ran home to her husband, Michael.

Within minutes the dog arrived back carrying Mrs Harris's stolen shoulder bag, with its contents intact.

Mrs Harris, of Sandrock Road, said that she had been returning home after a dog-training session with Jacob.

January 30 1987

PARLIAMENT

## Flexible hours Bill fails

PUBLIC HOUSES

A Bill to introduce more flexibility into public house licensing hours in England and Wales failed to get a second reading in the Commons when the Deputy Speaker, Mr Ernest Armstrong, rejected a move to put the Bill to a vote.

There had been only one hour and 40 minutes debate on the Licensing (Amendment) Bill when its mover, Mr Allan Stewart, called for a vote.

The Bill would have enabled public houses and clubs in England and Wales to open for flexible hours during the period 10.30am to 11.30pm, as permitted by licensing magistrates.

MPs in favour of the Bill protested that 10 speakers had been called, but the ruling stood and the Bill was adjourned until March 27 when it will have little chance of debate or acceptance. Mr Allan Stewart (Eastwood, C), said in moving second reading that it was estimated that a relaxation of public house and club licensing hours would create between 25,000 and 50,000 new jobs as well as benefiting tourism and the economy.

Evidence of the experiment in Scotland showed that cases of drunkenness and related offences had declined.

Mr Douglas Hogg, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said that the Government favoured a liberalization of the licensing laws in England and Wales and did not wish to oppose the Bill, but if it reached the committee stage, amendments might be necessary to reduce resource cost implications.

Throughout England and Wales there were 122,000 licences and registered premises which could apply for variation orders and it was a reasonable assumption that about 75 per cent would seek to do so, occupying a lot of court time. Substantial burdens would also be imposed on the police.

The Government would not wish to do anything which would exacerbate the incidence of alcohol abuse and the death and injury caused by drunken driving, domestic violence and criminal offences committed under the influence of alcohol. Mr Alfred Dubs, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said he would have preferred any relaxation to be part and parcel of an overall approach to tackling alcohol abuse.

Mr Stanley Crowther (Rotherham, Lab), supporting the Bill, said he deplored the hysterical campaign mounted against it in



Stewart: More than 25,000 new jobs

recent weeks. Much of the opposition was based either on deliberate lies or on evidence which was, to say the least, dubious.

The House would be open to the charge of double standards if the Bill were turned down. Their own bar, into which MPs could take guests, was open all hours for as long as the House sat.

Sir Bernard Braine (Castle Point, C), opposing the Bill, said it would extend drinking hours. It must be viewed against a background of alcohol abuse, especially among adolescents, and increases in under-age drinking.

The debate was adjourned.

## Car firm's cutback is 'butchery'

Plans to get rid of 1,000 workers at Austin Rover were described as 'butchery' after Mr Geoffrey Patten, Minister for Information Technology, told MPs that the call for voluntary redundancies and early retirements was a matter for the company and that it would not be appropriate for the Government to comment.

The company, he said, must be free to determine employment levels in line with market provision and the need to be competitive.

Mr Terence Davis (Birmingham Hodge Hill, Lab) said that the announcement was contrary to the impression given by Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, on Wednesday.

Were Mr Graham Day, company chairman, and the Government setting for an Austin Rover share of 15 to 16 per cent of the total British market and a production level of 450,000 cars a year, instead of trying to get sales back to 20 per cent of production back to 650,000 cars a year?

One in 10 of Austin Rover staff would lose their jobs as a direct result of the defeatist attitude of Mr Day and the Government. How many more redundancies had yet to be announced? Would the corporate plan be published to allow the House to see the true scale of the cuts proposed by Mr Day with the blessing of the Government?

Mr Patten denied that there was a defeatist attitude by the Government or Mr Day. The corporate plan was at present being studied.

Mr Donald Dixon (Harrow, Lab) said that the sooner Mr Day was sacked the better it would be for the motor car industry.

Mr Patten said in response to Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Lab) that people were not buying British in sufficiently large numbers because they were not satisfied with the quality, design, the product itself or the after-sales service.

## Crossbow 'fun'

A Bill restricting the sale of crossbows to young people was welcomed by the Government and given an unopposed second reading in the Commons.

The Crossbows Bill, introduced by Mr Peter Braine (Leicester East, C), makes it an offence to sell a crossbow to a person under the age of 17, or for youngsters under that age to be in possession of, or use, such weapons.

Mr Braine said that some of the Rambo exploits in Vietnam had given the weapon a glamorous image, which together with names like Wildcat, Trident, Foxfire and Bandit, made it attractive to youngsters. There was even a "family fun" version

firing rubber tipped bolts which was advertised: "shoot at your favourite politician on television, remarkably accurate".

The maximum penalty for selling a crossbow to someone under 17 would be up to six months imprisonment, a fine up to £2,000, or both. Anyone under 17 buying a crossbow could be fined up to £400.

Mr Douglas Hogg, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said that a Home Office review showed that in 1985-86 there were 150 cases of misuse involving crossbows. So far as could be judged from statistics, the misuse of crossbows was at a fairly low level.

## Spy film resurrects privilege issue

The privileges of the House of Commons were being prejudiced because the Government did not intend to seek an injunction to prevent screening of the controversial BBC film about the Zircos project, Mr Alan Williams, a Labour spokesman on House of Commons affairs, said.

He was seeking a Government statement about its current position on the film, which is the subject of a ruling by the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) that it should not be shown in the Commons premises. The film, however, is to be shown in Cardiff, this weekend.

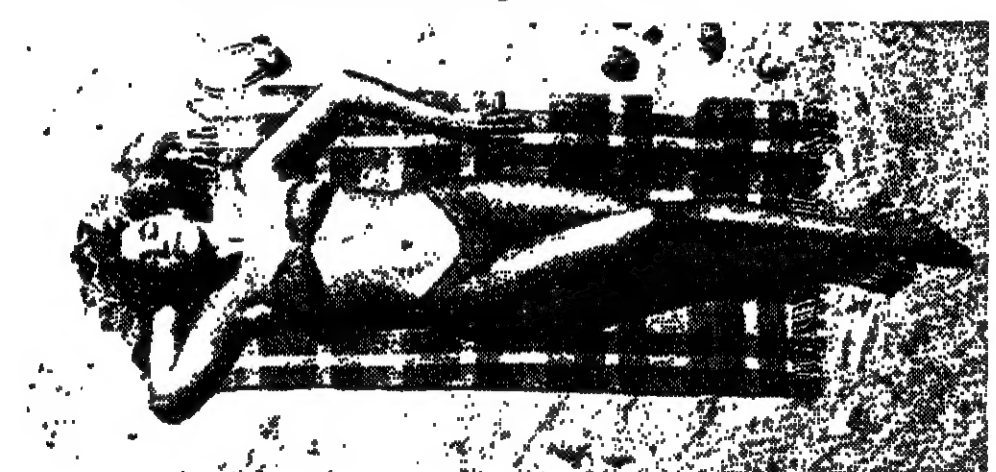
The matter is being considered by the Select Committee on Privileges. The Government obtained an injunction preventing the film, from writing or speaking about its contents and the Speaker has indicated that his ban stands unless that injunction is lifted, until the House reconsiders the matter when the select committee reports.

Mr Williams said that the Opposition had supported the Government in efforts to suppress any possible security breaches in relation to the film. Mr Nigel Spearing (Newham South, Lab) said it is the responsibility of the Government to apply the injunction to the principle or withdraw it.

Mr Peter Seaman, Opposition chief spokesman on Commons affairs, reiterated the demand for a Government statement. Mr John Biffles, Leader of the House, heard the exchanges but did not intervene.

Mr Peter Seaman, Opposition chief spokesman on Commons affairs, reiterated the demand for a Government statement. Mr John Biffles, Leader of the House, heard the exchanges but did not intervene.

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It was brilliant being able to sail from beach to beach, or rather country to country, instead of being stuck in the same place the whole time.

Last stop was Gibraltar. For once I didn't go to the beach. By the time I'd climbed to the top of the Rock and seen the apes I was too exhausted even for that.

Then it was back to Southampton with my new friends. The worst thing was having to say goodbye to them all when we finally got off.

Still, I'll be seeing them again. Next year!"

Fiona Rogers, 27.

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# Carrot may be used with the stick to avoid jail troubles

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

New measures to tackle the cause of trouble in jails are being examined by a Home Office working group, Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said yesterday in a wide-ranging speech on prison policy.

Until now, British jails have been unusual in relying on loss of privileges and remission, but that has failed to prevent disruption. The approach now being examined is to provide incentives to good behaviour: the carrot as well as the stick.

Mr Hurd expressed concern about wide variations between counties in the use of bail and the Home Office Research and Planning Unit is to study why this happens.

"We need to ensure that remands in custody are used

consistently and as sparingly as is envisaged in the Bail Act," he told Bristol University Conservative Association.

The steep rise in the remand population of prisons is a cause for real concern, Mr Hurd said. The increase had helped to boost numbers in prison at the beginning of 1987 to 2,000 more than the year before.

There were 8,844 untried prisoners in jails at the end of November, compared with an average figure during 1986 of 4,804, and they now account for a fifth of the population.

In the context of considering whether, for reasons of efficiency and good sense, the maximum period of remand without a court appearance should be increased to 21 or

28 days, I shall be looking at practice more generally in this area."

Mr Hurd said the swelling of the remand figure was largely because of increased pressures on the courts — between 1979 and 1985, the number of cases before the crown court rose by 65 per cent — and he hoped to introduce in April next year a nationwide scheme for time limits for courts after earlier field trials.

The Prosecution of Offences Act provided for statutory time limits so that prosecutors brought cases to court as quickly as possible or risked having to drop the case. "We are still evaluating how best time limits can be implemented across the country."

Making sure there are no more unsentenced prisoners in custody than necessary is one of Mr Hurd's two main strategies for dealing with the prison population increase. The other is the building programme.

Mr Hurd said he did not believe the way to reduce numbers in jails was to tell the courts whom they might send to prison or for how long. Nor would it be sensible to widen the gap between sentence and the actual time served or, except in a real emergency, to contemplate any arbitrary system of executive release.

"I do not accept the suggestion that we can devise an arbitrary figure which, in principle, represents the 'right' level of imprisonment; or that in England and Wales we have exceeded such a theoretical level."

## Concern for rights of prisoners on remand

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Cost cutting planned by the Government will affect the rights of remand prisoners, the Howard League for Penal Reform says today.

The league "unequivocally opposes the proposal to extend the maximum period for which magistrates may ordinarily remand a person into custody from eight to 28 days without a court appearance".

In a reply to a government consultation paper, the league says: "A person who has not been convicted of an offence has a right to be seen and heard frequently to appeal for their freedom."

## Challenge to case heard in private

The crown prosecution service is to make a High Court application against a three months' driving ban imposed in a drink-drive case which magistrates heard behind closed doors.

The bench at Malvern, Worcestershire, aroused controversy when it agreed to a defence application for the case to be heard in private.

The magistrates took the unusual decision after hearing that the defendant had at one

time been close to suicide.

After the hearing the press was readmitted and told that Colin Hyland, aged 41, a nurse, of Wells Road, Malvern, had been disqualified from driving for three months and fined £200, although the court sheet showed her breath-test reading to have been nearly twice the legal limit.

Yesterday Miss Judith Kenney, the West Mercia Southern Branch prosecutor for the crown prosecution

service, said she had lodged an application with the divisional court.

"The application deals with whether there were special reasons for reducing the period of disqualification from the normal 12 months to three months," she said.

Mr Dennis Clare, clerk to the magistrates, said yesterday that there was no Act or statute to which he could refer which supported the magistrates' decision.



Mr Peter Adcock, a marshman, using a spiked comb to dress the Norfolk reeds which have been harvested from Hickling Broad and Cley Marshes. There were fears that the heavy snows could have left the crop useless, but the reeds were buried and escaped damage. Mr Adcock, one of six marshmen employed by the Norfolk Naturalists Trust to harvest 500 acres of reed, is removing grass and weeds from the reeds before stacking. A rice harvester has been converted to cut the reeds which are a valuable source of income for the Trust (Photograph: Nick Rogers).

## Coastline walk takes 48 weeks

A secretary will stroll on to Brighton pier today exactly 11 months after she set off from the same spot to walk clockwise around the coast of Britain.

Averaging just over 100 miles a week, Miss Helen Krasner, aged 38, of Croydon, south London, has completed the 5,000-mile journey without particular difficulty in spite of enduring some of the worst winter weather this century.

"I managed to hit Kent exactly when the big freeze struck," Miss Krasner said as she approached her destination at a leisurely pace.

"The day it started I was walking between Rochester and Sittingbourne and the weather forecast said there were going to be a few showers. It ended up snowing from eight in the morning till twelve at night."

A committee led by Mrs Jackie Lithell, Mayor of Brighton, will greet the intrepid walker, prompting a distinct sense of déjà vu, although another mayor was holding the office when she was waved off with similar pomp 48 weeks ago.

## Overseas doctors 'unequal' in NHS

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Unequal treatment in the health service of overseas and British trained doctors with broadly similar professional qualifications is disclosed in a study published by the Commission for Racial Equality.

Overseas doctors are concentrated in lower grades and unpopular specialties, notably geriatrics, accident and emergency, and psychiatry.

Only 19 per cent of consultants are from overseas. Yet one third of hospital doctors in the National Health Service in 1981 are estimated to have been born overseas and had obtained their basic medical qualifications before coming to the UK. Most were from Commonwealth countries and Pakistan.

When asked if there was discrimination against overseas doctors in the health service, 35 per cent of British trained consultants compared with 58 per cent of overseas consultants felt there was.

The study shows overseas doctors have to make more applications for posts than British counterparts: 64 per

cent of white doctors compared with 15 per cent of overseas doctors made only one application.

The commission says the differences emerge more sharply in figures for those doctors who have made more than 10 applications: 31 per cent of all overseas doctors did so compared with a nil percentage of white British doctors.

National figures for 1981-85 confirm the commission says, that overseas doctors are over-represented in locum posts, stay in them longer, and have fewer promotion prospects.

Poor training opportunities have ensured the relegation of overseas doctors to the lower grades and the least popular specialties. Those doctors who were white and had all their training in Britain were twice as likely as overseas doctors to feel career expectations had been fulfilled.

Among its recommendations, the commission says the DHSS should issue revised guidance to regional and district health authorities on avoiding direct and indirect discrimination.

## Library cost up by £25m

By Gavin Bell

The Government is investigating the management of a big British Library building project, after learning that its first stages will cost at least an extra £25 million.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, said the initial construction costs for the building in St Pancras, central London, had been estimated in 1979 at £116 million. That represented £193 million at 1986 prices.

The estimate, and others in the intervening period, had not made sufficient provision for inflation. The revised estimates now stood at £218 million at 1986 prices.

In a parliamentary written answer, Mr Luce said: "The Government is reviewing arrangements for the management of the project and improved arrangements will be introduced as soon as possible."

An additional £19.5 million would be provided over the next three years to make up the shortfall. A revised total of £237.5 million would be spent over this period.

## Postman's blues bring red letter day

Mr Harold Raymond, a retired postman of Ashburton, Devon, left his entire estate, valued at £50,000, to his cousin and neighbour, Mr Eric Worsley.

He explained: "It is to recognize the great debt I owe him for having put up with my mood and temper for the past 50 years."

Mr Worsley said yesterday: "I would rather remember the good times. Generally he was a very nice chap."

Other wills, page 20

## Knifeman sent to Broadmoor

Terence Barnard, who was convicted last December of the attempted murder of a woman anaesthetist, was committed to Broadmoor on an interim 12-week hospital order when he appeared at Lincoln Crown Court yesterday.

Barnard, aged 20, of Pevensey Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, will appear in court again in March. In June last year he attacked Mrs Irene Hall while she was walking on the Sussex Downs, leaving part of a knife blade embedded in her spine.

## Pupils defend jury challenge

A petition signed by 500 pupils and students at four Inns of Court was presented to the Commons yesterday.

The petition — from pupils and students at the Middle Temple, Inner Temple, and Gray's and Lincoln's Inns — urged the Commons to "protect the right of peremptory challenge which is being questioned in the Government's Criminal Justice Bill".

## Forest killer jailed for life

A killer whose victim lay hidden in a forest for seven weeks was given a life sentence at Newcastle Crown Court yesterday.

Frank Wilkinson, aged 39, had denied battering to death Alan Raffle, a horse dealer aged 23, with a hammer after luring him from his caravan in New York, north Tyneside. Edward Wood, of Charlotte Street, North Shields, was cleared.

# SUNDAY



The application form and details of the offer will be published in the newspapers this Sunday, February 1st. They are also available in British Airways travel shops. The closing date for applications is 10am, Friday, February 6th.

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## WORLD SUMMARY

## Libel suit settled over Plath film

New York — A Harvard psychiatrist who claimed she had been libellously portrayed as a suicidal lesbian by the late poet Sylvia Plath in her 1963 autobiographical work *The Bell Jar* has agreed to a settlement with the makers of a 1979 film of the book (Charles Bremner writes).

The out-of-court settlement on Thursday came on the sixth day of a trial in Boston that writers feared could lead to curbs on their freedom to draw on real life as a basis for their fiction.

Lawyers for Dr Jane Anderson, aged 55, agreed to drop their action against 14 defendants, including Mr Ted Hughes, Britain's Poet Laureate, and the film's producers, in return for \$150,000 (£100,000) damages and an admission that the film unintentionally defamed her "in that it coincidentally but falsely seems to portray her as having homosexual inclinations... and as a person who committed suicide by hanging."

Mr Hughes, who was Miss Plath's husband and administers her estate, said through his lawyer that he was satisfied with the outcome.

## Falklands rescue

British forces on the Falkland Islands have come to the rescue of some 300 elderly Americans marooned there (PA reports).

Their luxury liner, the *Rotherdam*, put in at Port Stanley yesterday for passengers to inspect the scene of the 1982 war. But the weather became rough and the ship had to be towed to safer waters.

The tourists, unable to board their vessel, were billeted overnight on Coastal 3 — the barge home of about 300 men of the First Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

## Medal for Speakes

Washington — President Reagan yesterday bestowed the Presidential Citizen's Medal on Mr Larry Speakes, his White House spokesman, who departed after six years in his post to become a director of communications for a Wall Street investment house (Michael Binyon writes).

In a private White House ceremony, Mr Reagan gave him the medal in recognition of his having "faithfully served the cause of truth." He called Mr Speakes a man "cool under pressure," who had served the cause of America.

## ETA bomb injures 40

Madrid — A Spanish Army major and a civilian bus driver were killed and more than 40 others, 28 of them Army personnel, were injured yesterday by a car bomb which went off in the centre of Saragossa (Richard Wigg writes).

The early morning attack in the old part of the city was taken to be the "reply" by ETA, the Basque separatist organization, whose "Spain Commando," blamed for many murderous attacks, was spectacularly broken up in Madrid a fortnight ago. The target was a passing Army bus taking officers and aces to the Saragossa Military Academy. The civilian driver was killed instantly and the major, of the academy's teaching staff, died shortly afterwards in hospital. The civilians hurt were passers-by. The bomb had been placed in a small van. The blast damaged a dozen other vehicles in an 800-yard range. More than a dozen car bomb attacks have been mounted by ETA since 1982.



## Smiling patient?

Los Angeles — Illness was this week blamed for the Mona Lisa's crooked smile, left (Ivor Davies writes). Dr Kedar Adoni, a Californian, claimed the smile may have been caused by Bell's Palsy, a condition that occurred during pregnancy.

## Writer 'intimidated'

Hong Kong — Mr Lawrence MacDonald, a US reporter working for Agence France Presse, said yesterday that Chinese government allegations that he had abused his position in Peking to gather illicit information were "groundless and absurd" (David Bonavia writes). Mr MacDonald declined to answer questions on arrival here but said the Peking authorities were trying to "intimidate" foreign journalists. He is the fourth correspondent to be expelled in the past few years. He said he "resented being made a pawn in Chinese politics" — evidently a reference to speculation here that expulsion of foreign correspondents is part of an internal power struggle involving the security organs. Mr Georges Bismuth, the regional director of Agence France-Presse, said that Mr MacDonald's expulsion was a "flagrant violation of the right to information."

## Waite's whereabouts still a mystery

## Escorts can only wait and see

From Juan Carlos Gumucio Beirut

Mr Terry Waite's abandoned escorts are playing cards or strolling in front of the Riviera Hotel with a barely perceptible mixture of impatience and a little concern. There is no trace of alarm, but an enigmatic wait-and-see stance which has brought profit to a few coffee vendors, busy under umbrellas that have long ago lost their colours.

Mr Waite's bodyguards have not given a specific reason for the sense of reassurance that discreetly prevails among their leaders in the Progressive Socialist Party of Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader in Lebanon.

Perhaps it is the record of the PSP in looking after foreigners in the chaos of west Beirut which can be of advantage to Mr Waite in his latest mission.

Mr Jumblatt's men are a mighty military force and the rigour of the discipline its leaders are trying to maintain has been demonstrated more than once with the execution of members caught in wrongdoings. It has been the PSP which made evacuation arrangements for American, British and French diplomats and

A car bomb exploded in a Christian east Beirut shopping centre yesterday, killing at least five people and wounding 37, police said (AP reports from Beirut). It was the second car bomb blast in the east of the city this year and occurred near the Mossa commercial centre in the Zalka neighbourhood. It damaged a school bus and a dozen cars parked along the crowded road.

nationals in situations of imminent peril.

Mr Jumblatt's well-trained men also played a decisive role in the release of four Soviet diplomats abducted in west Beirut in November, 1983. One of them was murdered, but the rest were safely returned to the Soviet Em-

## Botha sets date for white general election

From Michael Hornsby Cape Town

South Africa's white voters will go to the polls on Wednesday, May 6, in the first general election to the House of Assembly, the white chamber of Parliament, for six years, and the ninth since 1948 when the National Party (NP) began its uninterrupted four decades of office.

It also seems likely to be the first election to be held under a state of emergency since the Second World War. The Government could still decide to suspend the emergency before the election campaign begins but there is no sign that it intends to do so.

President Botha, who announced the polling date yesterday in a speech opening the 1987 session of Parliament, said "incidents of unrest" had declined since the nation-wide emergency was declared last June but then added:

"The revolutionary climate, however, necessitates the continued maintenance of these measures of control."

It remains to be seen how much freedom of speech MPs will be permitted during the campaign and how much latitude will be granted to journalists reporting it, especially in view of widespread new censorship powers conferred on General Johan Coetzee, the Commis-

sioner of Police, on Thursday. General Coetzee can now prohibit "without prior notice to any person and without hearing any person," the publication of "any matter" which he deems to be a threat to the maintenance of public safety and order or calculated to prolong the state of emergency.

A front-page editorial in *The Star*, Johannesburg's evening newspaper, yesterday reflected the general anger of the country's English-language press, which won some short-lived relief from censorship in a Supreme Court judgement on Thursday before the new decree nullified it.

"Parliament opened today without the public's representatives knowing whether or not they would be allowed to debate basic issues. Using terrorism as an excuse, the Government has circumscribed free speech, censored and distorted information and circumvented Parliament with repressive decrees — all in defence of 'freedom,'" the paper said.

In an oddly lacklustre speech which contained little new other than the election date, Mr Botha called on South Africans to "stand united against the spirit of revolution incited against us from abroad," and to resist "uncalled for and unwarranted interference in our domestic affairs."

As an appeal to xenophobia is likely to be one of the main themes of Pretoria's election campaign. The image of a strong government, refusing to be hurried into rash action by a hostile and uncompromising outside world, has proved attractive to white voters in the past.

Although no one seriously expects the NP to be removed from power on May 6, the party will face a real challenge from both the right and the left for the first time since 1948, and could see its majority in the House of Assembly (see

panel) whittled down.

It will be the first nationwide test of the strength of the extreme-right wing Conservative Party, whose 18 MPs broke away from the NP in 1982 in protest against Mr Botha's cautious relaxation of apartheid and the creation of parliamentary chambers for the Indian and Coloured (mixed-race) minorities.

To the left of the NP, a strong challenge is expected from the Progressive Federal Party (PFP), which has entered into an electoral pact with the much smaller New Republic Party (NRP). This should enable each party to concentrate its resources on those constituencies it has the best chance of winning.

There are also signs of disintegration on the right (enlightened), or reformist wing of the NP. The latest evidence was the resignation yesterday of Dr Denis Worrall as South Africa's ambassador in London, and speculation that he might stand as an independent candidate in the election.

Earlier this month, Mr Wynand Malan, a reformist government MP for the Randburg constituency, near Johannesburg, resigned from the NP and announced that he would campaign as an independent because of Pretoria's slowness in repealing the remaining apartheid laws.

## House of Assembly, January 30, 1987

Party	Cape Natal	OFS	TVL	Nom	IE Total
NP	42	10	13	51	116
PFP	11	6	9	9	35
NRP	2	4	15	15	36
HNP	1	1	1	1	4
IND	1	1	1	1	4
TOTAL	56	20	14	76	166

Note: Five NP seats (2 in the Transvaal and 3 in the Cape) and one CP seat in the Transvaal are currently vacant.

## Results of 1981 general election.

Registered voters: 2,290,527		Valid votes cast: 1,364,776	
Party	votes polled	%	seats
NP	777,555	57.0	142
PFP	285,197	19.4	27
HNP	192,214	14.1	27
NRP	106,766	7.8	8
NCP	19,149	1.4	0
Others	8,385	0.3	0
TOTAL	1,364,776	100.0	177

Note: Since 1981 the Walvis Bay enclave in Namibia, which is considered to be legally part of South Africa, has been declared a separate constituency, increasing the number of seats in the House of Assembly to 178.

KEY: OFS Orange Free State, TVL Transvaal, Nom nominated, IE indirectly elected, NP National Party, PFP Progressive Federal Party, CP Conservative Party, NRP New Republic Party, HNP Herstigte Nasionale Party, IND Independent, NCP National Conservative Party (which has since merged with the Conservative Party).

## Man in the News

## Worrall's shoes hard to fill

By Nicholas Beeston

The Pretoria Government will be hard pressed to find a replacement to match its outgoing envoy, Dr Denis Worrall, who has fought an impressive rearguard action against opponents of apartheid in Britain during his three-year tour of duty in London.

The seasoned diplomat, regarded as South Africa's most able spokesman overseas, announced his resignation amid speculation that he hopes to run in the whites-only elections in May, possibly as a candidate for President Botha's National Party.

After nearly three years in London Dr Worrall, aged 51, established as an eloquent speaker and able debater, can look forward to returning to South Africa with the reputation of a man not intimidated by the growing protests against apartheid in Britain and the West.

Although regularly summoned to the Foreign Office to explain the actions of his Government and security forces, he has managed to field the mounting criticism and has on occasion counter-attacked with publicity drives of his own.

Once described by the Liberal Party leader, Mr David Steel, as a "plausible apologist," Dr Worrall has initiated some unorthodox publicity stunts in the past two years, including sending "information packages" about South Africa to all Social Democratic Party members before their party conference in Harrogate and accepting an invitation to discuss apartheid and sanctions with the leaders of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

His public style has sometimes embarrassed the Government and in June last year he gave the Opposition ammunition when he praised Mrs Thatcher's controversial stand on South Africa.

Besieged in his office by protesters demanding an end to apartheid, Dr Worrall explained that his aim in Britain was to "raise the level of debate about South Africa."

Before entering public life in 1974, he received a PhD at Cornell University in the United States and lectured on political science at a number of universities in South Africa, the US and Nigeria.

After seven years in the South African Parliament, first as a Senator for the Cape Province, then as an MP for the constituency of Gardens in Cape Town for the National Party, he was appointed chairman of the Constitutional Committee of the President's Council in 1980.

His next posting, as Ambassador to Australia, was caused by a rift between Dr Worrall, on the left wing of the party, and hardline Nationalists over elements in the new constitution.

Although an ardent supporter of the Afrikaner-dominated National Party, Dr Worrall is believed to have pressed for black representation in the constitution, which ultimately only gave partial electoral rights to Coloureds and Asians.

Dr Worrall is married and has three sons.

## Anti-apartheid rugby star faces jail

From Ray Kennedy Johannesburg

One of three prominent South African sporting brothers who have achieved local notoriety over their opposition to the white-dominated rugby football establishment was sentenced to an effective two and a half years' imprisonment yesterday for arson and fraud.

Valence Michael Watson, aged 34, was convicted of setting fire to the family home in Port Elizabeth and of trying to defraud insurance com-

panies of about £184,000 to pay off business debts.

On Thursday his two brothers, Ronald, aged 35, and Daniel, aged 32, were acquitted of conspiring with him in the crimes and also of attempted murder. It had been alleged that they plotted to leave two Africans they had instructed to set fire to the house trapped inside the blazing building.

The Watson brothers, all prominent rugby players in the Eastern Cape province, decided publicly several years ago to desert the white-domi-

nated South African Rugby Board and play for clubs affiliated to the anti-apartheid South African Rugby Union.

Valence Watson was granted bail pending an appeal yesterday after his counsel told Mr Gert Steyn, president of the Port Elizabeth regional court, he had strong personal convictions and was prepared to take a stand on them.

One of the principal state witnesses, Mr Geoffrey Mccanda, claimed in earlier evidence that he confessed to arson only after he was tortured by the security police.



President Botha stands at attention at the opening of Parliament in Cape Town yesterday amid the traditional military pomp and ceremony.

## Mulroney hopes for dialogue

From Jan Rasmussen Ottawa

Mr Brian Mulroney, the Canadian Prime Minister who hosts the next Commonwealth summit, hinted late yesterday that the Commonwealth Eminent Persons' Group would again be used in an initiative on South Africa.

The concept of the function of the group "has not been abandoned," he told a press conference here shortly before ending a five-day visit to Zimbabwe.

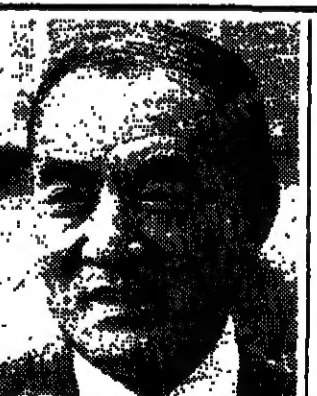
Unlike the Rhodesian constitutional crisis, where brain was used as a conduit for dialogue, no such channel existed in South Africa, he said. "That is why we believe the Eminent Persons' Group will be particularly useful, perhaps coming at it in a different way to ensure that those who wish for the role of dialogue will have someone with whom to speak."

The group concluded last June after an intensive study of the South African racial conflict that Pretoria was not interested in negotiations.

The report led to the mini-summit of seven Commonwealth leaders in August which recommended that member states voluntarily adopt a package of 11 sanctions against South Africa.

Canada, Australia and New Zealand have implemented most of the sanctions, with Ottawa giving the recommendations a more aggressive interpretation.

He said he had had intensive discussions with Mr Mugabe over human rights in Zimbabwe, specifically the cases of two former senior Customs officers who have been in detention since last February as alleged spies.



## Nakasone appeal on wane

From a Correspondent Tokyo

The Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the most popular Japanese leader since World War II, is relying too heavily on the hope that his appeal to voters will continue to outweigh political damage from unpalatable tax and defence spending reform which he is pushing through Parliament.

A poll from Japan's biggest circulation newspaper, *Yomiuri*, showed voter support for his Cabinet down almost 10 per cent since the end of last year, to 38.1 per cent.

Those polled cited tax reform and a decision to break Japan's self-imposed limit on defence spending as major factors which made them dissatisfied.

Mr Nakasone had been chalking up approval ratings of over 50 per cent.

The poll results appeared only a few days after Mr Nakasone gave a keynote speech at the opening of Japan's latest session of Parliament, during which he vowed to implement the tax reform, and bolster Japanese defence.

## Glimpse behind the waspish pen of a possible President

An ageing President, with a staff "superb at constructing a cocoon of euphoria around him," a Vice-President, a "wimp and a fool," who was going to get the party nomination in the summer but was known to have a "spine made out of oatmeal," a manic, hardline Secretary of Defence, ever resentful of the smooth, eastern establishment Secretary of State and his belief in arms negotiations, military chiefs with their locker-room talk and enthusiasm for Star Wars, arms control negotiators wearily repeating untenable positions...

It sounds eerily familiar. Add an eternal Soviet Foreign Minister, "a grey fox" with flawless political instincts who had worked in the UN, London and Washington and served every Kremlin leader since Stalin, a Slesov-like Kremlin ideologue, elderly, gaunt and fanatical, an attractive Soviet translator at the fruitless Geneva talks, an American negotiator opposed to the hardliners taking the world to the brink of World War III... and you have the ingredients of a rollicking political thriller.

Indeed that is what *The Strategies of Zass* is. Of course there are the clichés — the Russians fearful of their own eavesdropping bugs and the Gulag, the good Montana liberal thinking of nuclear holocaust and his beloved daughter, the savvy White House correspondent who uses her charm to hop into the car of the National Security Adviser and tease out some secrets. And perhaps some of the writing is a bit flat.

But the world ought to start reading the book quickly. For it is written by a man who might well soon have to deal

with these very issues, not in fiction, but for real — a possible future President of the United States, Gary Hart.

The former Colorado senator has some waspish observations. On the model for the President — "over the years he had made amiability into an art form. He had traded God 10 IQ points for his grin — and won, at least politically, in the

on numerous Senate hearings for his fictional denunciations of star wars.

He has used his visits to Moscow — the last only a few months ago — to recreate accurately the scenery on the train journey from Moscow to Leningrad, the streets of Moscow and the statues of Leningrad. He knows — and despises — the sickening Washington power talk.

Hart is currently the leading contender — by a huge margin — for the Democratic presidential nomination. And the Democrats are confident they will win in 1988. Is the book a foreman of things to come, an insight into the soul of the next president? Perhaps. But it also says much about Hart that he found time to write the book.

Nor is it his first — he has already published three books of political philosophy, and another thriller written, amazingly, in conjunction with a Republican Senator, William Cohen of Maine. To Hart writing is almost more compulsive than politics and he has several times mused that one day he would retire to Ireland to write.

The reviews, lengthy of course, have not been too kind. But America is intrigued at glimpsing in print something of this aloof and private politician.

Six years ago the nation watched "Beltline for Boston" and all the other B-grade movies to gain insights into the man behind the actor-president. And the most glowing observations have been on Mr Reagan's habits of thought, speech and reactions to his film. So far, the star's candidness has nothing to do with his speeches to judge them on.

## Report clears Reagan on Contra link

From Mohsin Ali Washington

An important factor in the Iranian arms affair was President Reagan's "deep concern" over the plight of American hostages in Lebanon, according to the long-awaited report of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

But the 65-page report found no evidence that Mr Reagan had any knowledge that funds from the arms sales had been diverted to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua.

Much of the report has already come out publicly in earlier congressional testimony and leaks to the press, but the document goes into greater detail.

Other factors leading to the deal included: a reappraisal of US policy towards Iran beginning in late 1984, with emphasis on building a constructive relationship with moderate elements in Iran; Israel's strong and continuing interest in furthering contacts with Iran; and "efforts on the part of private parties, including international arms dealers and others."

However, the report did not resolve a conflict among Administration officials over whether President Reagan gave prior approval to Israel to make the first shipments of arms in August, 1985, several months before he signed an order last January officially authorizing arms shipments directly from the US.

It was the first official document released by investigators into the arms deals and diversion of profits to Nicaragua rebels since the scandal surfaced last November.

But the report is only preliminary and incomplete because the two key witnesses, Vice-Admiral John Poindexter, the former National Security Adviser, and his assistant, Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, have so far refused to testify.

● BAGHDAD: Iraq said yesterday its warplanes attacked two Iranian cities in retaliation for shelling of its towns and vowed to press home such raids until Tehran accepted a just solution to their conflict (Reuters reports).

A military spokesman said jets pounded targets in Tabriz and in Shiraz. All aircraft returned to base.

This was the first raid on Shiraz since Iraq began regular air strikes on targets in the so-called "war of the cities" following Iran's January 9 thrust on the southern front.

Iran says more than 2,000 people have been killed and 7,000 wounded in Iraqi air and missile raids this month.

Iraq's ruling Baath Party newspaper, *Al-Thawra*, said yesterday Iran was dreaming of a halt to the "war of the cities" and was "knocking on every door to bring this dream to reality, but it has to realize that it is chasing a mirage."

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## Drum-beat of hearts in Tehran

## Doomed children on parade for communion of toffees

From Robert Fink, Tehran

The inscription on the red bands round the little boys' heads was "Yes, Khomenei, we are ready," it said. And the would-be martyrs, dressed in yellow jogging suits, banged their small fists against their hearts in rhythm with the chant of all the other worshippers.

This cerebral drum-beat — at least 10,000 hands clapped to 10,000 chests every four seconds — pulsed out, as it always does at Friday prayers, through the airwaves of Iranian radio and television. The audience was familiar, even if the faces changed from week to week: mullahs, wheelchair veterans of the Gulf War, the poor of South Tehran, the volunteer children and the Iraqi POWs, grey uniforms and trucks to the prayer ground to curse their own President.

Friday prayers, on the campus of Tehran University, is a unique combination of religious emotion and foreign policy declaration, a kind of Billy Graham crusade and a weekly State of the Nation address rolled into one. A stranger — particularly a Westerner — can be perplexed at what he sees, even deeply troubled. But he cannot fail to be impressed.

It is not the prayer leader who acts as the centre piece of this great theatre. Yesterday, it was Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, who addressed the 10,000 gathered there.

But his discourse on the origins of the revolution, superpower frustrations in Lebanon and further Iranian military successes outside Basra was an almost rambling affair. His hair curling from beneath his amami and his left hand resting on the barrel of an automatic rifle, the Hojatoleslam did not stir his audience to any heights of passion.

The congregation provided their own course of unity, their voices rising and falling in cadence with a long chant in Persian that attempted to integrate Islamic history and the struggle against Iraq. "We are ready to give our lives, we are ready to go," they sang. "And fight as at Karbala against our foe."

The little boys — perhaps they were only 10 — went on banging their fists. "Imam Hussein said those around him were the best; now you see with Khomenei we are best," that Hussein and those around him are with us — in our war.

lies the honour of Islam, as we follow the word of our Imam."

Yet there were some, the youthful "Bases" volunteers, who had already been chosen for martyrdom, 13 and 14-year-olds already kitted out in tiny bright camouflage uniforms. They stood on each side of the speaker's dais holding trays of toffees, each sweet wrapped in crimson cellophane.

At a signal, they stepped among the road of mullahs and war-wounded, the Revolutionary Guards in parka jackets and the elderly, unshaven, dark-suited men from South Tehran, and presented their trays of toffees. Each man gently took a sweet without looking at the child in front of him, aware of the significance, for this was no interlude between prayers. It was a communion with doomed youth.

Then the boys walked soulfully back to their places on each side of the dais, hair cut short, large dark eyes, occasionally turning shy towards the mass of people. They were, the worshippers were told, clearly aware of their mission. They stood there, fidgeting sometimes, headbands slightly awry but feet together in attention as any child might play at soldiers in his home.

Hojatoleslam Rafsanjani made no reference to them. The formula is an old one, too familiar for words. His message was more temporal. Iraq was losing too many men at the front. It was also losing too much territory. To save the land, it had to lose more men. To save the men, it had to lose more land. So Iraq was losing the war. Since Thursday night alone, the Iraqis had lost six more brigades. The worshippers chanted their rhythmic thanks to their Army at the front.

Friday prayers are broadcast through loudspeakers along those very front lines opposite Basra piped through loudspeakers so that the Iraqis there can hear the 10,000 voices above the shell-fire. Those voices yesterday demanded revenge against Iraq for its air attacks on Iranian cities.

The Hojatoleslam did add one pragmatic note to the proceedings. "If you want to make yourselves useful," he told his nation-wide audience, "you can dig air-raid shelters at home."

The young boys stood limply on either side of him, perhaps aware that their homes were no longer their immediate concern.

## Grain trade war averted

## American farmers planning protest on EEC agreement

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Angry American farmers yesterday denounced the grain agreement hammered out at the final hour by United States and EEC officials to avert a bitter trade war.

Several large agricultural organizations representing hard-pressed farmers in the American Midwest, said they planned to take their protest to Capitol Hill and demanded action against the EEC in the new trade legislation, which is a priority of the Democratic-controlled Congress.

"This is a major setback," said Mr Michael Hall, executive vice-president of the National Corn Growers Association, the organization which led a coalition of groups which pressured the Administration for full compensation to repay farmers for trade lost due to the entry of Spain and Portugal into the European Community.

At a briefing on the agreement, US officials hailed the accord as an equitable political solution to a problem which had threatened to ignite the worst commercial war between the governments in more than a decade.

"You must remember that if we had imposed tariffs and the community had retaliated, the result would have been a trade war which would not have resulted in the sale of one more kernel of grain to Spain or Portugal," said Mr Alan Woods, Deputy US trade representative. But Mr Alan

Tank, vice-president of a Washington-based farm group, said no agreement would have been better than the one negotiated by Mr Clayton Yeutter, the US trade representative.

"They should have walked away from the agreement before they got to this stage. We may have needed a little trade war," he said.

Farm groups disputed the US Government claim that they would pick up "the lion's share" of the two million tonnes of grain and the 300,000 tonnes of sorghum that will be sold to Spain as a result of the new agreement, which is subject to review when it expires in 1990.

"There are no teeth in this agreement to force the Europeans to live up to the bargain," Mr Hall said. He noted that under an interim

No import tariff has been fixed for the imported grain and potential suppliers will have to tender for reduced import levy rates. But Spain fears the importers will fix the prices between them, forcing the Brussels authorities to accept unrealistically low rates.

To avoid such abuses, the EEC Commission has promised to consult Madrid before fixing import duties. It has also promised to bear the cost of state buying of surplus grain imported under the deal.



Mr Clayton Yeutter, his grain agreement criticised.

## 'Up to 100' killed in Sri Lanka

Colombo (Reuters) — Sri Lankan residents alleged yesterday that security forces killed up to 100 civilians during a battle this week with Tamil separatist guerrillas.

An official of the Banicoles Citizens Committee said the battle occurred at Kokkadicholai in eastern Sri Lanka on Wednesday.

"Most of them died in the strafing from aircraft," he said.

But a Government spokesman denied the allegations and said: "Only 21 terrorists, 13 security forces men and four civilians were killed."

He said commandos captured the main base of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam near Kokkadicholai.

The LTTE is the largest of the south Indian guerrilla groups fighting for a separate Tamil homeland.

Spanish rebuff

Madrid (AP) — Spain's Foreign Ministry said that an East German diplomat, Friedel Kemper, aged 33, had been expelled from Spain last August because he sought out contacts with extreme left-wing groups.

Burning issue

Madras, India (AP) — A judge sentenced a leading Tamil politician, Mr Muthuvel Karunanidhi, to 10 weeks hard labour for burning part of the Indian Constitution in protest against the alleged imposition of the Hindi language.

Tinned drug

Panama City (Reuters) — Panamanian police have discovered 88lb of pure cocaine worth about £2.6 million packed in tins labelled as palm hearts, after an officer thought the labels were suspect.

Be prepared

Wellington (Reuters) — A New Zealand firm is selling a £75 coffin kit (in five sizes) that can be stored in the attic until needed and then assembled in minutes, although presumably not by the person who will use it.

Correction

Chancellor Kohl, leader of the West German Christian Democrats, was pictured with Herr Heiner Geissler, the party secretary, and not Herr Norbert Blum as stated in early editions of *The Times* on Tuesday, January 27.



Enilda and Iran Gutierrez grieving at yesterday's funeral for their brother, Angelito, who was among 15 people killed in a demonstration at Mendiola Bridge in Manila last week.

## Marcos lashes out at US for treating him 'like a prisoner'

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Former President Ferdinand Marcos has angrily denounced the US Government for treating him "like a prisoner" after the State Department, acting on a tip-off, prevented him leaving Honolulu on a private plane for Manila.

The Boeing 707, chartered from a Lebanese arms dealer in Florida, waited for three days at Honolulu International Airport while forces loyal to the exiled President tried to topple the Aquino Government in Manila.

But when it was clear to the rebellious soldiers that Mr Marcos would not be allowed to leave, their uprising collapsed. The plane has now returned to Florida.

The State Department was told of the Marcos's preparations to return by the Philippines Consul-General in

Miami, who learned that the plane had been chartered by the former President.

The State Department, through its representative in Hawaii, told him that any attempt to return to the Philippines would violate the terms of his stay in the US.

The department spokesman said that when he came with his party to live as guests in Hawaii last February, it was with the understanding that he could come and go as he pleased, with one exception: he could not return to the Philippines only by prior agreement with the Manila Government.

"The Philippines Government asked us to do everything we could to prevent this from happening," the spokesman said.

Preparations for his return apparently included some shopping by Mrs Imelda Marcos. Last Saturday she visited the military shop in Waikiki with about eight people and bought camouflage trousers, combat boots, T-shirts and heavyweight jackets, paying about \$2,000 (£1,300).

The Lebanese arms dealer, Mr Sarkis Soghamalian, claimed while waiting at Honolulu that he was on a business and pleasure trip. But investigators found he was waiting to complete the sale of the Boeing 707 to Marcos backers, who had already put down a deposit.

After being prevented from leaving, Mr Marcos appealed to his supporters to "keep on fighting for liberty and democracy". After his press conference he was seen on television lifting weights and jogging to demonstrate his fitness.

## Israeli leaders fall out on peace talks

From Ian Murray, Jerusalem

Mr Yitzhak Shamir and Mr Shimon Peres, leaders of the two main factions of the Israeli coalition Government, met tomorrow before the regular weekly Cabinet meeting to try to defuse the latest argument between them. Mr Peres, the Foreign Minister, has made veiled threats about leaving the Government, while Mr Shamir, now in the driving seat as Prime Minister, is showing no signs of compromise.

The argument centres on the idea of an international conference on Middle East peace, including Soviet and Chinese representation, which King Hussein of Jordan insists must be held to sort out the Palestinian problem. Mr Peres told foreign ministers of the EEC in Brussels this week that Israel was prepared to take part in such a conference provided it led to direct negotiations with Jordan. Mr

## Delhi talks to ease tension on border

From Our Correspondent, Delhi

Mr Abdul Sattar, the Pakistani Foreign Secretary, arrived in Delhi last night for two days of talks on defusing military tension along the India-Pakistan border.

Mr Sattar was greeted at the airport by his Indian counterpart, Mr Alfred Gonsalves. He was to meet Mr Gonsalves and other Indian Foreign Ministry officials today and tomorrow.

Mr Gopalaswami Parthasarthy, spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, said Pakistan's Ambassador to India, Mr Humayun Khan, had met Mr K. Natwar Singh, Indian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

India last Sunday called for talks two days after moving troops to the border in northern Punjab state to counter what it said was an "unusual" buildup of Pakistani troops across the frontier. Pakistan countered that its troops were

on routine exercises and, in response to the Indian move, advanced its forces.

There also have been reports, which the Government has refused to confirm, that Indian forces have been increased along the disputed Indian-Pakistan border in Kashmir to the north.

The troop movements came as tensions between the countries already were running high. India has accused Pakistan of training and harbouring Sikh militants waging a guerrilla war for an independent homeland in Punjab and of encouraging cross-border drug smuggling. Pakistan denies the allegations.

KARACHI: Police fired on a crowd of protesters yesterday, killing at least one man and wounding 13 others after a bomb shattered a police vehicle in running street battles in Karachi (AP reports).

## Russia to free top dissidents

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

In a further attempt to improve the Kremlin's tarnished image on human rights, the Soviet authorities have informed two more leading dissidents that they will be freed from labour camp. They also stated that the cases of up to 10,000 Jews previously refused permission to emigrate are now being reconsidered.

Dissident sources said here yesterday that the wives of Mr Anatoly Koryagin, a psychiatrist aged 48, and Mr Sergei Khodorovich, a computer programmer aged 45, had been separately informed that their husbands can be freed from the Gulag if they agree to emigrate to the West.

Mr Koryagin, whose case has already been taken up by a number of Western human rights campaigners, is one of the best known dissidents still being held here. A consultant to the now defunct Helsinki Monitoring Group, he is serving a 12-year term imposed in 1981 on charges of anti-Soviet agitation.

According to the sources, his wife, Galina, was summoned to the Visa Office in her home city of Kharkov in the Ukraine and told to fill in emigration papers for the whole family, including her husband, who has been nominated for the 1987 Nobel Peace Prize.

Mr Koryagin was quoted as saying that she had been told that if he did not agree to

emigrate, he would have to serve the rest of his sentence. She said she had completed the application and was now waiting for further news.

A senior Soviet source told *The Times* that "several hundred" sick prisoners were due for release this year following the decision last month to allow Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident physicist to return to Moscow from internal exile. One or more of the released men, the source said, would soon be produced to give interviews to Western reporters in Moscow.

The claimed softening in the Soviet stand on the position of Jewish *refuseniks* was announced by Mr Samuel Ziv, chairman of the Soviet Anti-Zionist Committee.

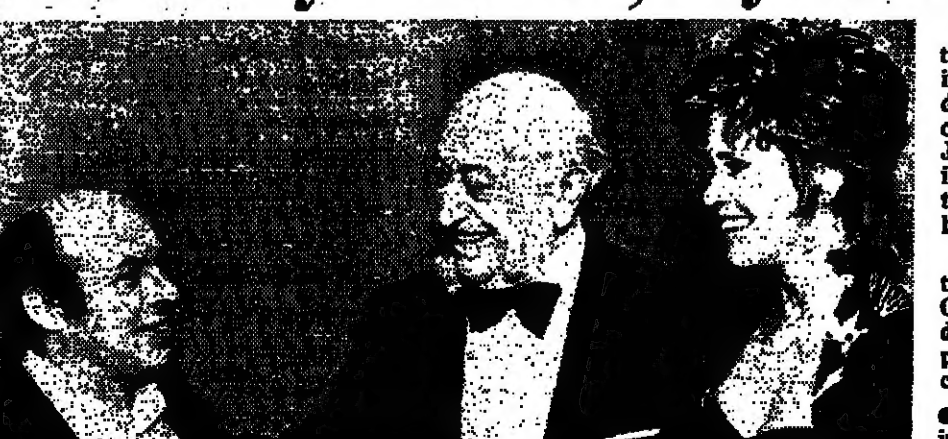
## Don't be fooled by Kremlin, says Sharansky

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

Mr Anatoly Sharansky on his third visit to the west coast of America is spreading a single message here: "Don't be fooled by Glasnost," by what he calls Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's "campaign of gestures".

The Russian-born physicist, released last year in a spy swap exchange after serving 8½ years of a 13-year sentence in a Soviet prison, came to California this week to collect the Simon Wiesenthal Centre's annual humanitarian award.

He accepted the award from Mr Wiesenthal, who flew in from Vienna for the event which was also attended by celebrities including Jane Fonda, William Shatner and Veronica Hamel; politicians such as Lieutenant Governor Leo McCarthy and Mr David Roberti, President of the California Senate, as well as Mr Tom Bradley, the mayor of Los Angeles, Miss Fonda's



Mr Sharansky, left, greets Mr Simon Wiesenthal and Jane Fonda at the award ceremony.

husband Mr Tom Hayden, the Assemblyman, and Mr Armand Hammer, the US industrialist who has been doing business with the Soviets since the revolution.

Mr Rupert Murdoch, the publisher, and his wife, Anna, who were co-chairing the dinner did not arrive from Australia in time to attend.

All this week Mr Sharansky has been taking the opportunity of his exposure to the American media to plead that pressure on the Soviet leader not be relaxed.

Calling Mr Gorbachev's reforms more cosmetic than actual, Mr Sharansky said: "I am not optimistic. While the reforms are a clear sign that

Gorbachev admits the pressure of the West on him on the subject of human rights and that it is dangerous for the Soviet Union to continue living with these problems, it depends on how the West responds to him as to what will happen. In fact it depends more on the West than on Gorbachev."

Mr Sharansky points out that Gorbachev's new liberal image is belied by the recent death of Mr Anatoly Marchenko and the fact that Mr Joseph Begun, the American envoy, yesterday on the effect US sanctions have had on Poland's economy and discussed prospects for an improvement in relations.

Mr Whitehead, a Deputy Secretary of State, is meeting government, church and opposition leaders in Poland and will advise the Reagan Administration on a timetable for lifting sanctions.

The measures, which affect trade and credit, were taken by the United States after Poland's communist authorities suppressed the Solidarity free trade union under martial law at the end of 1981.

Mr Whitehead, the most senior US official to visit the country since, was due to meet Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity chairman and other opposition activists last night. He

## Sanctions briefing for envoy

Warsaw (Reuters) — Mr Zbigniew Messner, the Polish Prime Minister, briefed Mr John Whitehead, the American envoy, yesterday on the effect US sanctions have had on Poland's economy and discussed prospects for an improvement in relations.

Mr Whitehead, a Deputy Secretary of State, is meeting government, church and opposition leaders in Poland and will advise the Reagan Administration on a timetable for lifting sanctions.

The measures, which affect trade and credit, were taken by the United States after Poland's communist authorities suppressed the Solidarity free trade union under martial law at the end of 1981.

Mr Whitehead, the most senior US official to visit the country since, was due to meet Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity chairman and other opposition activists last night. He

was expected to have talks with General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Communist Party leader, this morning.

Mr Messner said his talks with Mr Whitehead were part of an intensification of dialogue with the United States.

Western diplomats said any lifting of the embargo on fresh US Government credit for Poland would be mainly a symbolic gesture for the moment.

But Washington's restoration of most favoured nation (MFN) trading status to Poland would provide an impetus to the export drive to the West with which the Polish Government is spearheading its attempted economic recovery.

Informed sources said almost all sectors of opinion consulted by Mr Whitehead during his visit were expected to press for the lifting of sanctions because of the economic burden they impose.

Mr Whitehead, whose trip follows the release under amnesty of all 225 political prisoners recognised as such by the authorities, is also probing Poland's record on human rights since martial law was lifted in 1983.

Political sources said General Jaruzelski was expected to stress his government's desire to avoid holding political prisoners again.

Senior Solidarity activists were among those released under the amnesty and the Government has substituted heavy fines for jail terms on those detained since for opposition activity.

Mr Walesa, who has also urged that sanctions should be lifted, indicated when he arrived in Warsaw for the meeting with Mr Whitehead that he would seek US support for the restoration of free trade union activity in Poland.

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January 31 - February 6, 1987

## SATURDAY

A weekly guide  
to leisure, entertainment  
and the artsSailing  
in to  
vision

The America's Cup final starting today becomes a major television event for the first time. But other sports are jostling for attention. Stephen Aris looks at the contenders

When Australia's Kookaburra III set sail this morning to defend the America's Cup against the American challenger, Stars and Stripes, far more was at stake than a trophy worth little more than £340. For the eyes of the world were on a 24-mile stretch of water off Fremantle, Western Australia.

As the two boats played catch-as-catch-can among the spectator fleet during the pre-race manoeuvres, every twist and turn, every hint and counter-hint was being relayed across the world by the 51 television networks who have bought a slice of the action.

In Britain the pictures come not from the big guns of the BBC or London Weekend but from one of the smaller but more imaginative regional stations, the Southampton-based TVS who bought the exclusive British rights from Mark McCormack's International Management Group and who have laboured long and hard to solve the immense technical difficulties of making sailing television entertainment.

As a spectator sport, the America's Cup leaves a lot to be desired. Much of the action is far away, it is often difficult to tell who is winning and for anyone not an aficionado it is next to impossible to understand the tactics. Also, despite the presence of miniature on-board cameras, helicopters and pursuit boats, the technology needed to provide instant coverage of a long-distance yacht race 8,000 miles away is still in its infancy.

"Sailing is a great thing to do but we have yet to come up with the television techniques to convey the excitement," admits Clive Jones, TVS's controller of news, current affairs and sport. Yet the

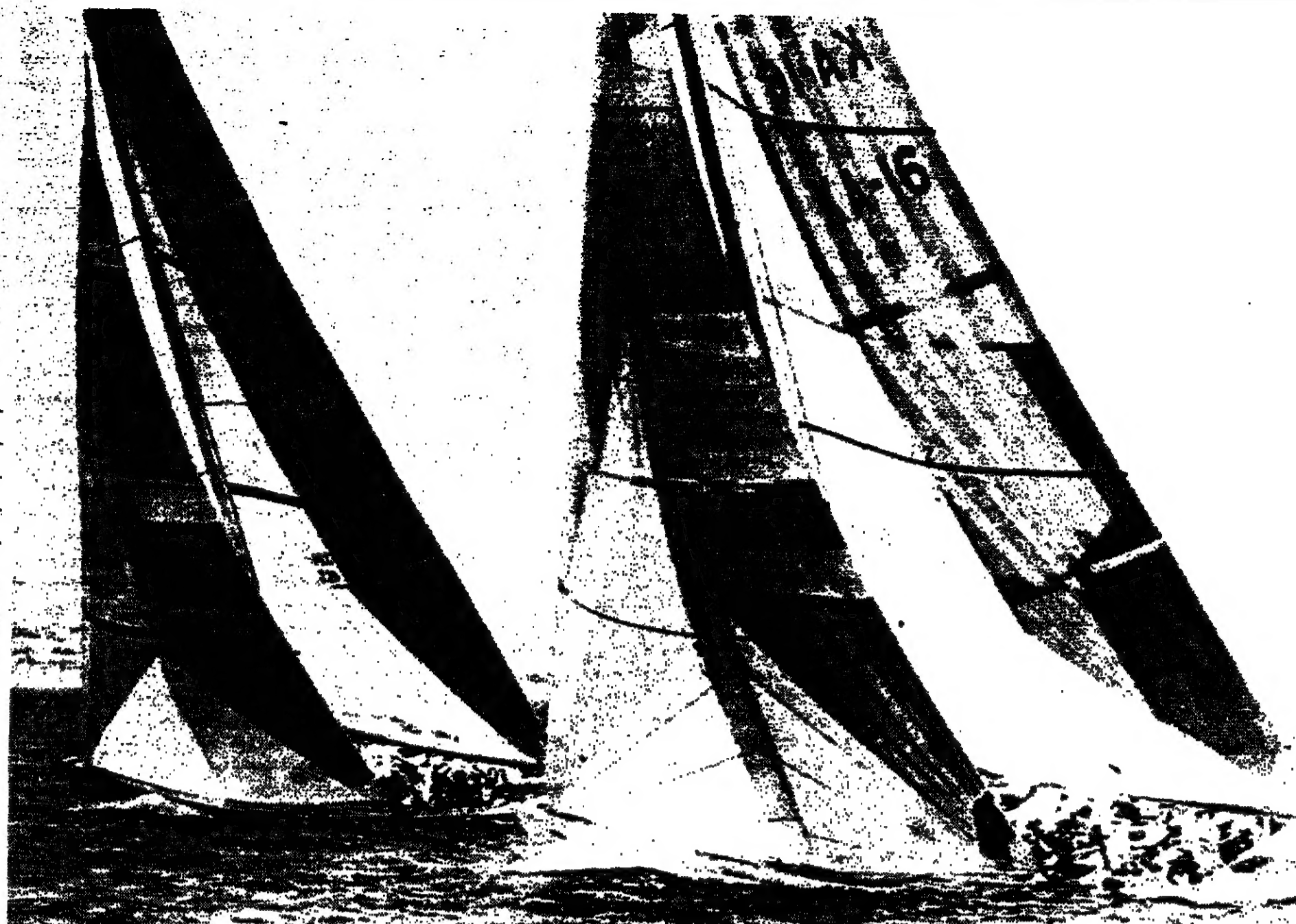
ballyhoo has had some effect. People who wouldn't have recognized a spinnaker if it fell on their heads now talk knowledgeably about wind shifts and biased lines and argue fiercely about the tactics of covering and the need to go for clear air.

The Australians are so enthusiastic that they are talking about a full-blown 12-metre world championship with stem-to-stern international television coverage, and even TVS is hoping later this summer to cash in on the interest by laying on a televised championship for somewhat smaller and less glamorous boats.

The public appetite for sport on television is seemingly so insatiable that, far from being content with providing a regular diet of cricket, football, tennis and athletics, the television companies are constantly on the hunt for what might be called "Son of Snooker". In other words, what they are looking for is some hitherto unregarded and preferably inexpensive activity that, through the alchemy of television, can be transformed into mass entertainment.

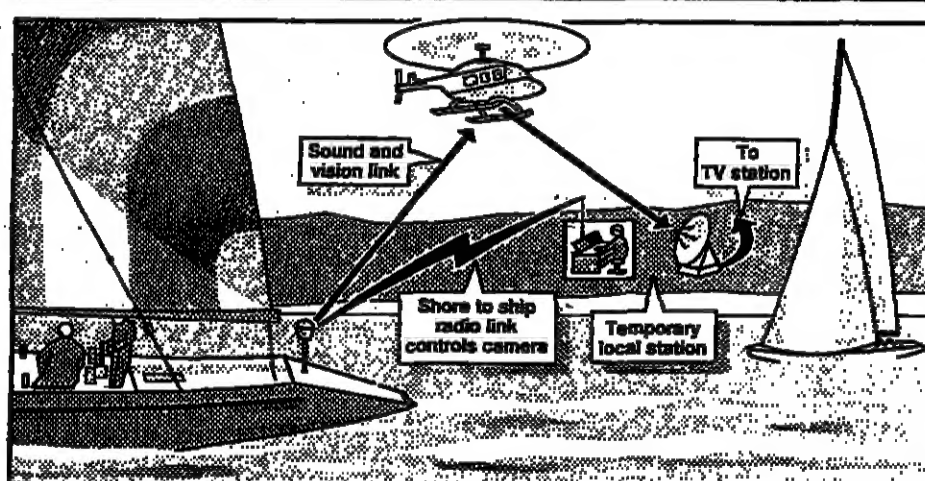
For several years London Weekend flirted with polo. But despite an exclusive contract with Smith's Lawn, the Wimbledon of polo, and regular appearances by Prince Charles, there was too little tension to keep viewers enthralled. "The game keeps stopping and starting," LWT says. "Balls are lost and horses changed. There are so many interruptions that even edited highlights don't work. Also it's not exactly the kind of game our viewers identify with. In the end we decided there was too much else happening on Sunday afternoons, so it had to go."

At first sight, the fast and furious action of squash



Scene afloat: Kookaburra III (left) and Australia IV on the battleground, where their manoeuvres will draw the attention of an international television audience

## THE ONBOARD CAMERA THAT BRAVES THE WAVES



would seem to make it a television natural. It is highly popular, played by three million people a year, and is expanding fast.

But there are formidable technical problems which television is trying to solve. With the help of the Squash Rackets Association, a new ball has been developed, fitted with cat's-eyes and glowing like a firefly to help viewers follow the action, and new American rules have been introduced to shorten the rallies and change the scoring system.

There are still many problems to be sorted out says Ted Wallington, the marketing manager of the SRA. "It's very fast, the top players make the game look too easy and television is not very good at explaining what's happening." Undaunted, the BBC is planning to cover several big squash events later this year, including the British Open in April and the World Open Championships in October.

Perhaps the most surprising breakthrough has been by a game far removed from the showbiz atmosphere of television. It is slow, gentle and quintessentially English. It is also, in its quiet way, devastatingly ruthless. For years croquet, which has been described as "a cross between snooker and chess", has been associated with long summer days on vicarage lawns. Now it too has felt the impact of television.

Last summer Granada devoted six hours to an international croquet tournament. The rules were unchanged but

to speed up the game the lawn was, at television's insistence, cut to half the normal size. The purists might snort, but the officials of the Croquet Association, based at the Hurlingham Club, were delighted. "It has really helped put the game on the map," Brian Macmillan, the association's secretary, says. Sales of croquet sets are running at record levels: last year alone, 10,000 sets were bought.

Hockey, too, has been enjoying a renaissance - thanks to a happy coincidence. To fill a gap in its schedules, the BBC agreed to cover the world championships held in London last October. To everyone's delight, the English team did unexpectedly well, winning a thrilling semi-final in extra time against the West Germans and going on to take the silver medal.

Almost overnight, the public perception was changed of a game which has been played in Britain for 150 years. Thanks largely to television, the old image of beefy schoolgirls in pigtails was dispelled. "What the public saw," says Stephen Baines, chief executive of the Hockey Association, "was something fast, exciting and skilful. I think people were looking for something new, and found that a game where there was no violence and no tantrums was very refreshing."

Of all the television companies, Channel 4 has been the most imaginative in its coverage of sport - by necessity, because ITV and the BBC have a monopoly of the major events.

With the help of indepen-

dent production companies like the Soho-based Cheerleader, Channel 4 has repackaged swimming footage with coloured lanes and underwater cameras, promoted inner-city cycling and road running, has given extensive coverage to the Tour de France, staged Australian rules football and basketball and is shortly to expand its badminton and hockey coverage. It is also toying with the idea of Japanese sumo wrestling and rowing.

To give the so-called minority sports a chance to show what they can do, Channel 4 is planning to screen later this year a series of half-hour videos featuring three sports each. Called *Minority Challenge* there will, starting in April, be a series of featurettes on everything from roller hockey to parachuting, from judo to fencing.

But, as Adrian Metcalfe, former Olympic athlete and head of Channel 4 sports, says, "The trouble with most minority sports on TV is that they look like it. They suffer from what I call 'the Oxfam image' and very few have any staying power."

Metcalfe's biggest success so far is American football, where the programmes have been specially packaged for the British market by Cheerleader and attract a weekly audience of four million - astonishingly not far short of the five million who regularly watch British soccer.

Channel Four's Metcalfe thinks that one of the reasons for American football's present popularity, which includes a cult following among

One piece of technology that has had an enormous impact on the America's Cup, writes Barry Pickthall, is Channel 7 television's "Race Cam", an onboard remote controlled video camera that takes viewers into the middle of the action.

The camera system, which only weighs 11kg including aerial and transmitter and the electric box of tricks controlling its operation, has been mounted on several of the Cup contenders, either on the mast in the case of the Australian defender Kookaburra III, or on the stern.

It sends live pictures over a microwave link, via a helicopter hovering above, to a temporary shoreline station from where the signal is

beamed direct to the TV studio.

The system was first developed in 1979 for New South Wales' Bathurst 500 saloon car race and has subsequently been used in events like last year's Australian Grand Prix in Adelaide.

Now aboard Kookaburra III, the camera is set in lightweight aerodynamic housing and is operated via a radio link by a cameraman watching a monitor ashore. Remote controls include focus, zoom and pan and the camera can also be rotated and tilted manually, or locked on the horizon, depending on whether the producer wants a shot of the action on-board or of the opposing yacht.

One early problem was how

to keep the lens clear of fine salt spray. A remote controlled fresh water wash was fitted to one side of the mast and is used whenever salt builds up.

In the cut and thrust of match racing, collisions are commonplace and the crew of Kookaburra has often relied on Race Cam pictures to provide evidence against their opponents in the protest room.

But it has also proved something of an onboard spy, catching crews during unguarded moments more than once. During a recent break from training in the waters off Fremantle, Kookaburra mainsheet trimmer Peter Gilmour directed some choice words at the camera and asked it whether it was listening. As he watched, the camera nodded.

## SATURDAY

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celebrations: a  
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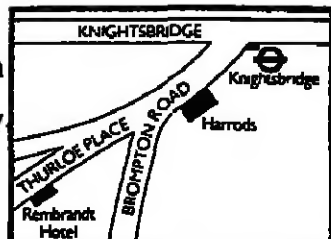
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Sporting chances: hockey and judo may become popular through TV, but polo failed to capture a mass audience



Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

## TRAVEL 1

# Back to nature or back to the past

The Languedoc-Roussillon coastline attracts naturists, noisy fun-lovers — and those in search of the quiet and charm of the French countryside. Val Hennessy reports

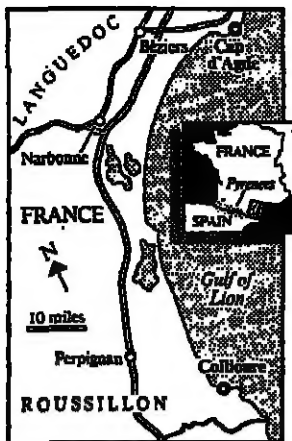
Mosquitoes hate garlic. Chew two cloves a day and you render yourself more repulsive to a mosquito, than Flit. I learned this from a kipper-complexioned naturist strolling along the Quai de Beauré at Cap d'Agde. In her view, and despite the mosquitoes, Cap d'Agde, "The Marina on the Med", is the ultimate holiday resort.

Garlic-eaters attracted to this 200km of reclaimed, architect-designed marshland will find 62 tennis courts (14 floodlit), 2,100 moorings, several jogging-roues, mini golf courses, go-cart tracks, archery, football, organized Scrabble, 17 discos and sun, sun, sun that beats relentlessly down — and especially fiercely — upon the thousands thronging the naturist district.

And then there's Aqualand, "seven acres of happiness" where life is like an action-packed non-stop commercial. It has the world's longest waterslides, fake lagoons, designer-planned grotto with psychedelic fountains, a water-spray and a wave-pool. Underwater loud speakers provide music and sound-effects.

However, if Cap d'Agde isn't your cup of tea, then the slow-paced, genteel, traditional France, with men wearing berets, children carrying baguettes under their arms, may be discovered only 50km away at Collioure, a small fishing port, where the tranquillity of its three golden beaches is disturbed only by the clink of petanque balls and the cries of windsurfers coming to grief.

I chose this sleepy town as my base. Dominating the harbour at Collioure is the stunning 12th century Palace of the Kings of Mallorca, impressive setting for permanent sculpture and painting exhibitions. Artists are attracted to this town like bees to a rose. Picasso spent much of the 1920s at "Les Tempeliers", an inn overlooking the river. According to the current bar-tender, he would sit outside sipping a small glass of Banyuls and eating Cargolade (eel and small

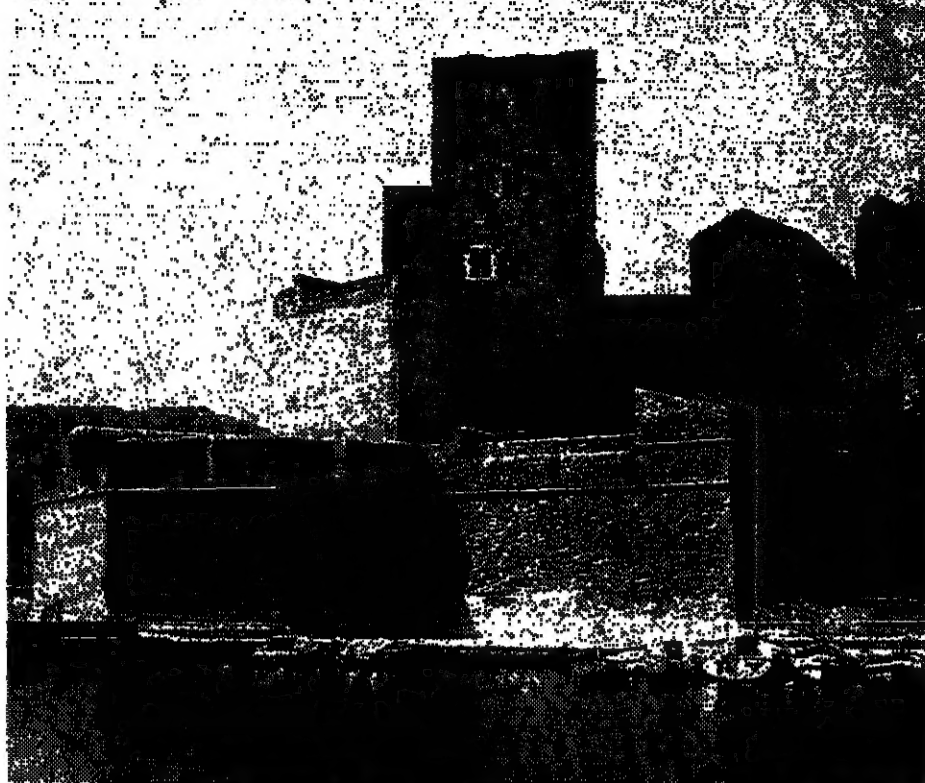


barbeque) in the company of Matisse and Dalí.

Today "Les Tempeliers" is a living museum, its walls hung with some of the 2,000 original masterpieces, and dreadful daubs, presented to previous owners in gratitude for days well spent. Picasso's works were ruined and removed after a flood in 1972, but there are fine sepia photographs of him wearing his sun hat, and there's Toulouse-Lautrec's original Jane Avril poster hanging in the bar.

The nearby cafes and restaurants along the traffic-free quay offer gourmet meals at bargain prices. The Frigate Restaurant serves a spectacular Zarzuela — a thick, rum-flavoured fish soup — which should be eaten outside, above the dried up river bed, where honeysuckle and roses ramble up walls and little grey ghost-like cats sink out of geranium pots to pester you for fragments of fish.

Collioure's back streets are narrow and cobbled and smell of fried onions. There are real shops, selling groceries, clothes, vegetables and take-



Middle ages: the 12th century Palace of the Kings of Mallorca beside Collioure harbour

away delights — soft sugar-dusted doughnuts and mouthwatering hot paté-en-croûte for nine francs. Picture postcards cost half the amount they do at Cap d'Agde. A meal at the creper-clad Hotel Les Terrasses, its terrace a vista of potted geraniums and spindly wrought-iron patio tables and chairs, costs 50 francs for

crudités, fried chicken, crème caramel, cheese and wine.

The local wines, full-bodied and fruity, cost less than £1 a bottle. You may sample them, with no obligation to buy, by wandering into one of the many musty-smelling "dégratation" halls where a local enthusiast pours generous free measures and gives



Bronze age: sun worshippers on the beach at Cap d'Agde

purple prose of a Collioure guidebook which describes the area as "an artist's palette of sunshine destinations, a subtle pot-pourri of scents, perfumes and eye-enticing colour".

Many of the Languedoc-Roussillon country towns, boasting lakes, waterfalls and forests, are officially designated "Stations Vertes" and offer charming family-run hotels at budget prices. A double room costs about £6. These towns have swimming pools, safe bathing areas and glorious walks along lanes embellished with poppies, cornflowers and clouds of butterflies in the way British lanes once were. And you will not glimpse even one high-rise hotel.

A car is necessary, too, to travel 30km to "Les Estreilles", a restored farmhouse surrounded by

sloping vineyards, where the food is prepared and served by the resident owners. The kitchen, all flag floors, rafters, brass oil lamps and gleaming spice jars, has a vast wood-fuelled stone oven. The moment you enter you know that this is a kitchen which has never encountered a chicken that wasn't free-range or a vegetable that wasn't organically grown.

Expect to dally for hours over your meal. In this part of the world people take their food very seriously indeed, so savour the chicken baked with herbs, garlic and apples, and the home-made goat's cheeses rolled in chopped chives. Outside ows hoot and powdery moths flutter against the insect screens and you experience that rare delight of having really escaped from "it" all.

## TRAVEL NOTES

Languedoc-Roussillon French Travel Service Holidays. By rail: £8 per person from any BR mainland station.

Cap d'Agde: Pierre et Vacances Studios: away from the centre, overlooking pool, ten days at £233 per person, when occupied by two people with rail travel from any British Rail station. Couchette return £16. Steeper return £56. Collioure: Hotel La Frigate:

overlooking Collioure's quayside, 100 yards from the beach. Excellent terrace restaurant. Ten days at £324 (half board). Supplements: bath and WC £15.

All FTS holidays include return sea crossing/transfer by coach or taxi from French rail station to resort. English-speaking courier on train. FTS has negotiated special car hire arrangements with Budget rent-a-car. Example: Peugeot 205 £132 for three days, £274 for a week. FTS, Francis House, Francis Street, London, SW1P 1DE; 01 828 8131/9152.

## Month of sun days

### TRAVEL NEWS

The long-haul specialist, Speedbird Holidays, has come up with a range of cut-price offers for departures throughout February.

Five-night holidays in Egypt are priced from £230 to £277, including return air fare. A nine-night holiday, including a Nile cruise, costs £545. Other deals include eight nights in Trinidad and Tobago from £435 to £599 and a week in Hong Kong from £470 to £556. Information on 01-741 0299 or from agents.

### Discounting the cost

The Thomas Cook travel agency chain is taking on the budget-shops with a plan to sell discounted air fares over the counter at its 264 branches and 43 outlets of its associated company Frames Travel. Its Airfare Warehouse claims to have reached agreements with major airlines and is offering fares of £295 return from London to Los Angeles, £243 to New York, £440 to Singapore and £67 to Paris.

Virgin Holidays is offering daily departures during February for its £299 short breaks in New York. The price includes the flight from Gatwick, three nights' accommodation at the Hotel Edison and a ticket to a Broadway show. Information on 0293 775511 or from agents.

### Champagne weekend

A complimentary bottle of champagne is being offered to couples taking a break over the St Valentine's Day weekend at any of the small French or Belgian hotels featured in Winter-Lan's programme. Two-night breaks in mid-February, including the Channel crossing for car and two passengers, cost between £67 and £103 per person. Information: 065 382 425.

Philip Ray

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The 22-day tour of China departs on two dates this year (April 14th and August 18th). We'll be visiting

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## TRAVEL 2

# Rambling round a Spanish rose

**Peter Stothard**  
spends a weekend  
break exploring  
the ancient and  
modern joys of  
Barcelona, once  
the sleeping  
beauty of Europe

Perhaps it was guilt, perhaps pure perversity. You take a long weekend away from the demands of your two-year-old daughter and you are seduced by the charms not of fine wines, fancy restaurants, unseen films, but of an amusement park.

The gardens of Tibidabo sit above Barcelona like an indulgent aunt encouraging the dutiful and the thrifty to play. From the top of the hill, the citizens of Spain's second city stare out at the harbour cranes that are the source of so much of their trading wealth. They can see the modest medieval cathedral, reminder of the days when Barcelona sat on the Iberian sidelines as "the sleeping beauty of Europe".

Turn a little to the left and there appears the towering modern cathedral of Antonio Gaudí, symbol of the violent artistic renaissance in the late 19th century when Barcelona could reasonably see itself as the centre of the world. Civic pride is strong in this capital of the Catalan region of Spain where both wealth and art are taken seriously.

**There is a civic pride in the city that will host the Olympics**

To take the carved wooden tram and twin-carriage funicular to Tibidabo on a Sunday is to join thousands of confident celebrants and their children in their tour through roundabouts, toboggan runs, fortune tellers and poisonous snake pits. It is an uplifting experience for an inhabitant of London.

It recalls the days when Highbury Barn was more than a bus stop and a row of shops, when Vauxhall Gardens had the spirit of Thackeray, not of Lambeth Council. Though the comparison may grieve those inhabitants of England's second city who thought that they, not the Barcelonians, should host the 1992 Olympics, it also recalls the sense of civic values in Joseph Chamberlain's Birmingham. This city wants to be first.

Barcelona has a main street — its Ramblas — which actually works. It runs from the port area, where the towering statue of Christopher Columbus contrasts with the tiny size of the boat that took him to the New World, to the heart of the business sector, the Plaza de Catalunya. Along the way there are rows of bookshops, flower shops and shops selling cage-birds.



Love in bloom: a peaceful stroll past the flower shops in Las Ramblas which beats the noisy Les Champs Elysées every time

The atmosphere is business-like. Las Ramblas is not meant primarily for tourists. The sellers are not to be trifled with. The canaries are *garantizados muchos*, too, or so the commonest shop sign reads.

Las Ramblas is not closed to cars, but it is not dominated by them either. It is not a lifeless pedestrian precinct but if you dislike the taste of carbon monoxide in your coffee it beats Les Champs Elysées every time. Every so often, there is the bustle of an extraordinary piece of commercial architecture, a belated streetlamp, a dragon-faced shopfront — by Antonio Gaudí or one of his followers.

The works of Gaudí are scattered throughout Barcelona. A day's taxi ride is the best way to see them. There is the Parc Güell, the bizarre beginnings of a garden suburb that ran out of cash. Only two out of 20 proposed houses were built, but this town that never was has a marketplace like no other in the world.

It stands in the form of a massive multi-legged milking stool. To sit underneath it is to experience what it was like when Samson was shaking the pillars of the Philistines. To sit on top of it is like riding in a porcelain fairground "wheeler" — each seat is a shaking curve of concrete encrusted with broken plates, cups and vivid floor tiles.

It may not have been Gaudí's fault but his most famous work, the church of the Sagrada Família, suffered the same unforeseen interruption as his park. There are two

vast facades of dripping stucco separated by what — till this day — remains a building site.

One might have expected a devout church architect to build a place for worship first and to save the embellish-

ments for later. Gaudí was apparently a religious man but, when it came to priorities, art came first. The result is one of those buildings that is better from a distance and better still in pictures. If you are short of time, leave it out.

From the well-dressed crowds on Las Ramblas to the inside of the side-street sandwich bars, Barcelona is self-consciously stylish. The restaurants show an aggressive respect for presentation. In the Pícolabí cafe and art gallery,

close to the Plaza de Catalunya, the chef's imaginative uses of white bread would be equally at home on the walls as on the plates.

An apparent exception is the solidly militaristic complex of buildings that will become so familiar to Olympic-watchers in six years' time. But do not be put off by the pretentious exterior of the Museo de Arte Catalana. Inside is the Majestad Barilo, a 900-year-old carved wood crucifixion whose ageless colours and simple serenity are awesome. The Majestad is just one of hundreds of wooden adornments from rural Catalan churches arranged in recreations of their original settings.

Most travellers seem to go to Barcelona for short periods. Before we left we were told much in the language of priorities: try not to miss the Picasso Museum, "remarkable in particular for the master's juvenilia," our expert told us. Do not, whatever you do, miss the Arre Catalana. In order to see Gaudí, don't be mean with taxis. All good advice — to which I would add the gardens of Tibidabo and the long, cool restaurant with the sea in front and the roller-coaster behind.



Gothic glory: Barcelona's beautiful medieval cathedral

## TRAVEL NOTES

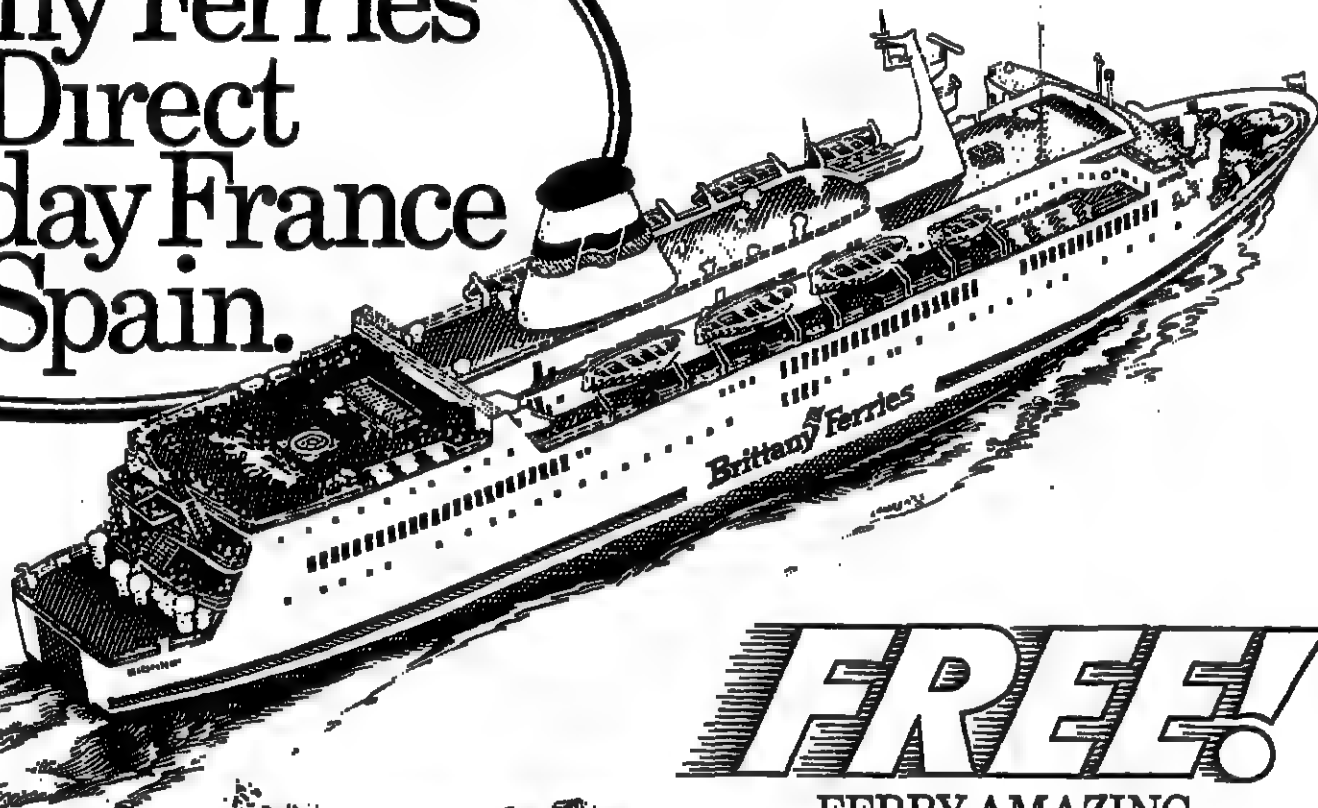
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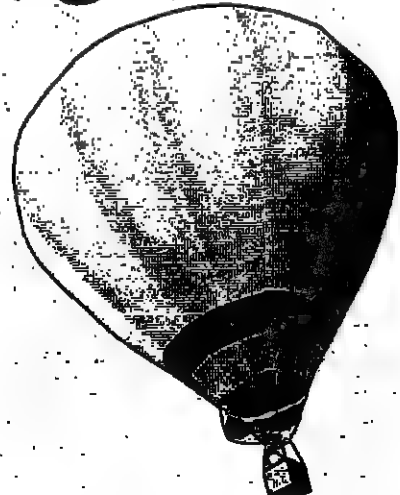
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## EATING OUT

## A taste of Chinatown

It's celebration time in Soho tomorrow when the Chinese community toasts its New Year with food, drink, fun and music. Jonathan Meades sampled their traditional fare



Tomorrow, south Soho celebrates the Chinese New Year. dragons, pagantry, music, pickpockets.

Last year, Gerard Street got a face-lift — the example of San Francisco's Chinatown was followed and numerous items of Chinese "street furniture" were plonked down in the newly pedestrianized quarter, so the congruence of actors and backdrop will at last be thorough.

This area is always teeming on Sundays. Entire Chinese families — four generations, some of them — come to eat protracted lunches. Queues are a norm, tomorrow they'll be longer than ever. And since booking rarely guarantees a table at the places listed below, you must be prepared to wait.

Chinatown's restaurants are predominantly Cantonese. It is not the place to come to for Szechuan or Peking food, though both are represented — which is more than can be said for the Hunan or the Shanghai kitchens. You'll find here Szechuan and Peking stuff in the latest wave of rather chic establishments in, mainly, South Kensington, Brompton and Earl's Court (Queensway, like Soho, is Cantonese).

These newer and more expensive places have had an effect on Soho, even though they are outposts of altogether different culinary traditions. Their example has prompted a number of Soho restaurants to dispense with Sino-kitsch, wait-to-serve, monosodium glutamate and filthy kitchens and to introduce inventive chefs, functional decor, higher prices, courteous service.

The days when you could suffer halitosis abuse from a waiter, get a bowl of soup poured in your lap, contract botulism, injure your eyes looking at the decor, watch Triads amputating each others' arms and still have change from £1.50 are almost in the past.

The New Yorker, in its guide to its city's attractions, warns potential patrons of jazz clubs to check that gigs are as advertised because jazz musicians "lead complicated lives". That way understatement might be applied, too, to Chinese restaurants. They come and go, change, change, they form new alliances — as phone, not to book but just to check that where you're heading for is still there. And if it's not, well, try next door.

We are celebrating the Year of the Rabbit. I've never seen rabbit on a Chinese menu, however Mr Kong does ven-

ison with ginger wine. This is a thoroughly successful combination and one of a number of "sandpot" (casserole) dishes offered here; duck with yams is also worth trying though the best of this lot is the quite extraordinary stew of lamb with dried beancurd.

The chef is clearly imbued by Cantonese tradition and, just as clearly, cognizant of what's been going on in France for the past few years.

Meat is not cooked until it is limp, and some of the combinations betray a new internationalism — for example, scallops and baby corns in a sort of deep-fried potato "basket". Filled eels are char-grilled on sauté sticks and dressed with Szechuan fagara pepper. Bill for two about £22. As with the rest of the prices given here it includes a couple of beers each but not wine, for the good reason that the wine in Chinese Soho tastes, to me, like sheep-dip.

Two other Chinatown restaurants are in the same league as Mr Kong: Poon's Leicester Street branch or Fung Ching. Of these I prefer Poon's — the decor is invisible and the (metal) hotpot of eel, belly pork and garlic a most splendid dish. I've eaten here about

20 times in the past three years and have rarely strayed from a tiny selection of dishes, although the menu is, in fact, extensive. I've eaten sea bass with black bean sauce, intensely hepatic wind-dried sausages, scallops, and that's about it. It all works out at around £24.

**"Competition has meant inventive chefs, functional decor and courteous service"**

Fung Ching is all carpets, spotlights and plants. Like Mr Kong, its near neighbour, it has a decorative neutrality and might be an Italian place or a French one. The deep-fried pig's intestines are especially good; something like sections of a reddish glazed hoecope, their texture is crisp then fondant. They are served with rather acidic pickled cabbage and an intense plum sauce which combine happily.

Of the dishes I tried last week the only other that was thoroughly successful was of eel deep-fried in spiced batter; the meat was firm, its coating bereft of grease. A duck and

plum hotpot was marred by overdone meat: too much bone and an excess of coriander. Minced quail with lettuce leaves was dull and might have been any tasteless meat. Allegedly fried noodles were flaccid. About £30.

Another bony duck had its end at Dragon Gate, a Szechuan interloper at the east end of Gerrard Street. This one's posthumous fate was to be "tea smoked". This process, which uses jasmine tea and wood chips, imparts a flavour that should find favour among anyone keen on cressets, bitumen or fresh tar. The duck itself should be enjoyed by those who like a mouthful of shrapnel. The best dishes here are: spicy tripe served in cold strips; shrimps with garlic and chilli; fried noodles. The service is sometimes tetchy. There is no decor to speak of. Cost: £28 for two.

The mostly steamed, sometimes fried "snacks" called dimsum or tumsun are available through the day at a number of Soho joints, rarely in the evening. The standard angle on these dishes is that they make a light lunch. Anyone who goes along with the idea that a light lunch is a bad lunch will treat them as elaborate hors-d'oeuvres.

This, at any rate, is the Chinese way. They are offered on trolleys by non-Anglophone waitresses at Man Fu Kong, New World, Chuen Cheng Ku and are on the menu at Joy King Lau, Lyon, New Loon Fung, etc.

As sheer spectacle, New World and Man Fu Kong achieve a dead heat. New World seats more than 500 and most of them are Chinese and most of them talk. The trolley-persons are slow and the subsequent menu is better than its size might promise.

Man Fu Kong is also vast. Dimsum in this place is pretty briskly delivered and the more interesting dishes here tend not to be on the menu; there is, for instance, a nice confection of sea slugs. The very idea of slugs is, I know, off-putting, but slugs are only civvy snails without the MoD armour plating and the marine things are humble vegetables striving for animation. The same might almost be said of the visiting Chinese pop groups who play here some nights — aspirant Bee Gees with stage fright. Man Fu Kong's exterior dissembles the vacuum-pressed dragons and plastic chandeliers of its interior.

Chuen Cheng Ku turns that inside outside. An oriental totem pole on Wardour Street makes a polychrome proclamation that this is something Chinese, doubtless a restaurant. The dimsum (especially the shellfish in dough or in rice batter) are extravagant, the labyrinthine three floors of tables are not.

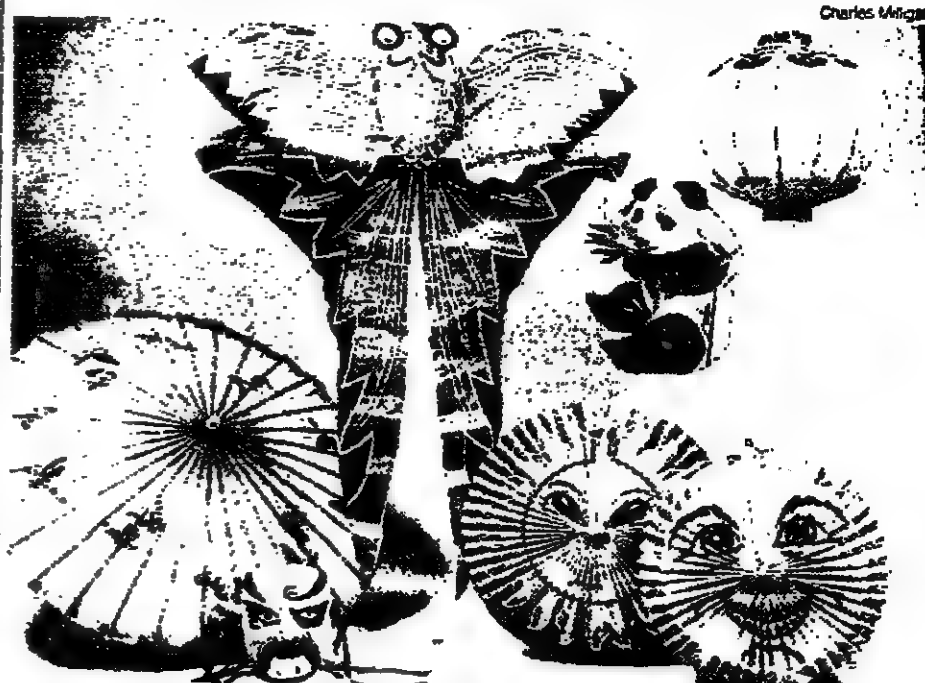
The menu includes dishes which are, improbably, as ambitious as those of Mr Kong or Poon's. They're probably not done as well as at those places, but they conspire to make this the best all-rounder: £26.

Mr Kong, 21 Lisle Street, WC2 (01-437 7341). Open every day, 12 noon-1.45am. Poon's, Leicester Street, WC2 (01-437 1528). Open Mon to Sat, 12 noon-11.30pm. Closed Sun.

Fung Ching, 15 Lisle Street, WC2 (01-437 1539). Open every day 12 noon-11.45pm. Dragon Gate, 7 Gerrard Street, W1 (01-734 5154). Open every day 12 noon-2.15pm and 5.15-11.15pm. New World, 1 Gerrard Street, W1 (01-734 0677). Open every day 11am-11.15pm. Man Fu Kong, 29-30 Leicester Square, WC2 (01-839 4146). Open every day 11am-11.45pm. Chuen Cheng Ku, 17 Wardour Street, W1 (01-437 1398). Open every day 11am-11.45pm.

## SHOPPING

## Good luck gifts for fans of the Orient



**Nicole Swengley suggest some ideas for combining a London shopping trip this weekend with a touch of eastern carnival**

If you thought you had a rough ride last year, you may be pleased to know that the Chinese zodiac's Year of the Tiger, signifying a period of change and challenge, reared out this week and a time of harmony and tranquillity hopped in on Thursday under the auspices of the Year of the Rabbit.

As the traditional Chinese New Year festivities get under way in Soho this weekend, we've come up with a handful of gift ideas — and a small rabbit patch — to join in the celebrations and fun. True, you may not wish to welcome in the Chinese New Year with traditional congee broth and raw fish, but encouraging a few good luck spirits and turning over a new leaf could well be in all our interests.

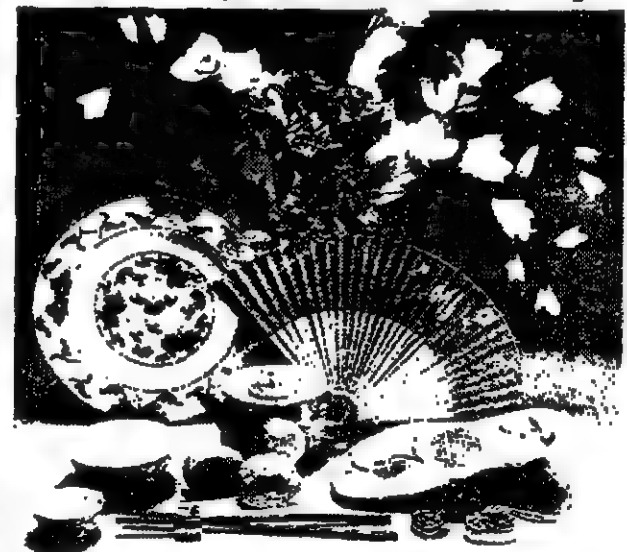
Anyone who would enjoy seeing the traditional New Year Lion Dance will find this symbol of energy and valour leaping past the Neal Street East shop in Neal Street, Covent Garden, at around 1.30pm today. The dance starts and finishes at Poon's Restaurant in King Street, WC2, and all gifts of money given to the lion (Lai-see) will be donated to charity.

A demonstration of Tai Chi Chuan, the Chinese combination of exercise, self-defence and meditation, takes place with sabre and sword at midday today outside Smith's Restaurant, at the corner of Neal Street and Earlham and Shelton Streets and inside Neal Street East at 12.30pm (hand movements only). Oriental gifts and cards can be bought in the shop between 10am and 7pm today and from 11am to 6pm tomorrow.

Chinese trimmings: parasol, £4.25. Paperchase: mask, £2.75. Liberty: paper kite, £3.95. Paperchase: raffia panda decoration, £5.95, silk lantern, £9.95, paper lanterns, £1.30 each, all from Neal Street East



Lucky rabbits: large Peter Rabbit, £75, Selfridges; stone rabbit doorknob, £30.10. The General Trading Company; grey alloy rabbit with gold coloured ears, £18.50, and Bunnikins soft toy rabbit, £12.50, both from Selfridges



China teaset: back row: "Lotus" dinner plate, £10.80, The Conran Shop; purple feather flowers, £1.45 per stem, white silk flowers, £1.35 per stem, fan, 95p, all from Neal Street East. Middle row: rice bowl, £2.65, antique Chinese teapot, £67, pair of slippers, £12.99, all from Neal Street East. Front row: blue and white tea cup, £7, bamboo boxes with rabbit and dragon designs, 99p each, chopstick rest, £1.35, pair of chopsticks, 35p, all from Neal Street East. Enamel pillboxes, £5 each from Harrods

## THE TIMES COOK

## Seasonal fishing for compliments

At the opening of the salmon fishing season and the end of pheasant shooting, Denis Curtis gives some exciting recipes



**Pheasant quenelle with port wine sauce**

1 uncooked pheasant  
2 egg whites  
12fl oz double cream  
3oz cranberries  
12fl oz port  
2 teaspoons icing sugar  
1 orange  
1 tablespoon caster sugar  
12fl oz game stock  
Juice of half a lemon  
1½oz unsalted butter  
Salt and freshly ground pepper

Poach the cranberries in the port for two minutes. Cool. Cut the breasts and thigh meat from the pheasant. Skin and pass the flesh through a food processor with the egg whites. Rub the purée through a sieve (optional) into a bowl and push this bowl into crushed ice. Gradually, but vigorously, mix into the purée as much double cream as it will absorb — about 12oz. Season and chill.

Drain the cranberries (retaining the port) and crush them into a paste with the icing sugar. Form the fruit into 12 ovals using two teaspoons. Chill. Form the pheasant purée into 12 egg shapes with dessert spoons. (Surplus mousse can be shaped and frozen.)

Prise an opening in each quenelle with a knife and push a cranberry shape into each. Smooth over to seal. Chill.

Pare the peel pitilessly from one orange and cut into julienne. Blanch and drain and then poach in one tablespoon of water with one tablespoon of caster sugar until the liquid has evaporated. Squeeze the juice from the orange.

Heat two pints of water in a saucepan and add salt. In this poach the quenelles gently (the bubbles should just break the surface), for four minutes each side.

Simultaneously, make the port wine sauce: pour the port into a saucepan and add salt. Bring to the boil and reduce by half. Add the orange julienne.

To make the game stock, crush the carcass of the pheasant and place in an oven preheated to 400°F (gas mark 6) for 10 minutes. Drain away the fat and place the roasting pan over a high heat and in it turn the carcass with two sliced shallots, rolled in caster sugar, until the sugar caramelizes.

Place the pheasant and shallots in a large saucepan and deglaze the roasting pan with 10fl oz burgundy and add one chopped carrot, two bay

leaves, a bunch of parsley, one teaspoon of thyme leaves, the chopped heart of celery and six crushed juniper berries. Cover with half water and half veal stock and boil together for 1½ hours. Strain.

Escalopes of salmon in a cream sauce with tomatoes, grapes and noodles  
1lb 6oz middle-cut salmon fillet  
2 dessert spoons of finely chopped basil leaves (or 1 of ground dried basil)  
3 tablespoons of olive oil  
4 medium sized tomatoes, skinned, seeded and each cut into 6 slices  
7oz black grapes, skinned and deseeded  
6fl oz Gewurztraminer  
8fl oz home-made chicken stock  
12fl oz double cream  
1½oz unsalted butter  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
6oz fresh ribbon (Tagliarini) noodles

Slice the salmon lengthwise into escalopes about 1/8 inch thick and about 3in by 2in in size. Place in a dish and season very lightly with sea salt and freshly ground black pepper.

Sprinkle the fish with basil and pour over the olive oil. Marinate for at least two hours, turning occasionally.

In a large saucepan of boiling water, place the egg noodles and cook until tender — about two minutes for fresh noodles. Add an egg cup of cold water to pan — removed from the heat — to arrest the cooking until the noodles are needed. Place a saucepan over heat and when hot add the salmon and marinate and cook for just 30 seconds each side.

Remove the fish from the heat and keep warm. Deglaze the pan with 4oz of the wine and boil until reduced to a thin syrup. Add the chicken stock and boil again to a syrup.

Add 12fl oz of wine and bring to the boil for two minutes. Season lightly with sea salt and pepper. Stir in the sliced tomato and grapes. Drain the noodles and then add to the sauce.

Add a further 2oz of wine and bring to the boil. Remove from the heat and stir in 1½oz chilled butter in small pieces. Finally, stir in the salmon and serve on individual plates accompanied by a green salad.

Denis Curtis, our guest cook, is a writer and broadcaster.

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## THE ARTS

**D**ennis Potter said in his interview with Alan Yentob for *Arena* (BBC2) that when he joined the BBC in 1959 he soon became fascinated with the "lies" of television. In particular, a documentary he made as a young man about his own background in the Forest of Dean literally brought home to him the falsification — it is "betrayal" when compared with "art".

The obvious lie about most television reviewing is that it is written before the programme is shown. *Arena* seems to take an admirable relish in finishing programmes at the last moment so sometimes you review an incomplete film. The film I saw was all in black and white, had some commentary missing and had tacked on the end a series of "reaction" shots of Yentob, probably shot without Potter. (Indeed, in some television interviews new questions are asked in the answers to match the answers given by the subject.)

The unfinished film, however, seemed more appropriate for a writer who, with his use of inventive techniques and contrasting styles, has so consistently made his audiences aware of the manufacture of drama, revealing the "lies" by the technique which he calls, "bumping against the very rim of communication".

In his early work the bumping had a more overt political purpose, but in *The Singing Detective* the radical opposition of competing, interlocking narratives were directed towards the smothering of the lies in an individual's "manufacture" of himself. The *Arena* programme both played the game of constructing a suitable identity for Potter (television "doing" a writer) and with a clever use of excerpts from his plays and documentaries suggested its falseness. Potter also took the opportunity to debunk the autobiographical myths that have resulted from his having the same disease as the "hero" of *The Singing Detective*. Highly articulate yet severely quiet, belying the savagery of his imagination, clear-faced, almost boyish, he presented an image far removed from that of Michael Gambon in the play.

A. H.

**How television is looking at The Arts this weekend.**  
**Andrew Hislop (left)** reviews *Arena* on BBC2 last night. **John Higgins (right)** previews this evening's Maria Callas Gala Concert, also on BBC2. **Roger Berthoud (below)** talks to the painter Anthony Green, entertaining subject of tomorrow's South Bank Show on LWT

Anthony Green: 'In a funny way, my pictures are about civilization and the family unit... what human experience and aspirations are made of'



## Reaching Green pastures anew

**A**nthony Green, who is 47 and half French, has always wanted his paintings to be seen and enjoyed by quantities of people. Stage one was to show his almost voyeuristically intimate scenes of life chez Green each year at the Royal Academy's summer exhibitions: for an ex-Slade student that was virtually artistic suicide in the Sixties. Stage two was to produce a chatty book about his work, *A Green Part of the World*, which Thames & Hudson published in 1984 in a smallish, cheap (£6.95) format intended to tempt a kindly aunt to stuff it in a niece's Christmas stocking.

Now he is "thrilled to bits" to be reaching out to a television audience through a 60-minute film about him and his work which John Read has directed for tomorrow's *South Bank Show* on LWT: as a milestone it follows the purchase of his work in recent years by the Tate Gallery, the Arts Council and the British Council.

The film is a deliberate riposte to the Royal Academy's current and somewhat narrowly modernist exhibition of 20th-century British art,

whose omissions have infuriated Green. He especially resents the "writing out" of the Kitchen Sink school of social realists, led by John Bratby. "If I was Bratby I think I would stick pins in the selection committee," he commented in the Highgate flat where he has lived for most of his life.

He admires Francis Bacon for his clear colours and considers him (heretically) to be at heart a narrative painter, like himself life with the Bacons. But he dislikes the turgid gloom of much-praised, quasi-teeny contemporary artists. "Kossov and Auerbach are smashing artists, but that ploughed field quality, what I call buckets of muck, worries me. I don't think it's necessary."

"Gloom is the big lie of contemporary art. The implication is that those pictures alone speak the truth about the society they mirror. Yet everyone knows that the world is full of brightness, gaiety, colour and hope."

Green reckons he owes much to his French side, and certainly he is voluble, open, and articulate in a rather un-British way. It all goes back to his grandfather, of Dor-

dogne peasant stock, who came to London as a chef, worked with the great Escoffier and became the head chef at the Waldorf. Anthony's mother — married an Englishman who had a tyre business in the Edgware Road but drank too much. "He was a dominant man who was mentally cruel to her: a lovable, sentimental monster."

**T**hey were divorced when he was 13. "The break-up made me very unhappy. But I could be sure of two things: my mother's love and of losing myself in painting and drawing. I think unhappiness sharpened the faculties. Then my mother remarried very happily. My stepfather was in the wholesale lobster market in Billingsgate."

Despite the prevailing lack of culture, young Green was a talented copyist of Mickey Mouse and Pluto, and on later regular visits to aunts and uncles near Paris was thrilled in the Louvre by the scale and skill of work by Delacroix, Géricault, Courbet, and David. Another decisive influence was Kyffin Williams, who introduced him to the work of van

Gogh (still his idol) and taught him art at Highgate School. At 16½ Green went for a successful interview with Sir William Coldstream, then Principal of the Slade. When in the later Fifties students there were excited by the scale and bravura of American abstract expressionism as first seen at the Tate Gallery, young Green found it all a bit empty compared with the no less vast canvases of Delacroix and co.

He achieved his breakthrough while spending a year in France after the Slade, where he had fallen deeply in love with Mary Cozens-Walker, a tall and beautiful fellow student. "The catalyst was dissatisfaction with what I was supposed to be doing. It seemed what worthwhile artists were doing art for art's sake, and the new art for art's sake was abstract expressionism."

"I said to myself, what is the most important thing in my life? I am an artist. I'm going to be an artist for the rest of my life. What is the most important thing? The answer is that I am in love and going to be married. So I asked myself if I should paint about that love, that passion, and set out to do so without any great theories, and in an

uninhibited way. I tried to throw off all the Slade drawing I had struggled to achieve — proficient enough to win the Tonks drawing prize — and to chuck off van Gogh and the clone Soutine I had been doing, and go back to childish, rather brutal images, painted very quickly."

Success came slowly, with the loyal support of Alec Gregory-Hood's Rowan Gallery, otherwise a bastion of abstractionism. Now his works cost from £5,000 to £18,000. The Japanese are his best customers: perhaps, he suspects, because they have a boisterous, figurative tradition of imagery from everyday life. Later this year he is having a retrospective show in Tokyo and four major provincial cities. The Americans and Germans come next, no doubt seeing the Green world with all its imperfections as a microcosm of everyday life. "In a funny way my pictures are about civilization and the family unit — very unpopular stuff nowadays, but it's what human experience and aspirations are made of."

As viewers will discover on Sunday, Green makes a persuasive case, very entertainingly.

R. B.

**T**here is a chance tonight to catch up on the form of four outstanding singers of the new generation in the *Maria Callas Gala Concert* (BBC2, 7.25pm). Aprile Millo, Anne Sofie von Otter, Thomas Hampson and Paata Burchuladze were the four prizewinners last month of the Maria Callas Foundation in Frankfurt. All are around 30 and well established in their careers, so they could carry their medals and sing their arias with aplomb.

The least known of the four, as far as Britain is concerned, is the American baritone, Thomas Hampson, and to him go the major honours. The voice has a top with a youthful sheen to it, as Figaro's "Largo al factotum" proved, but his height and his good looks will fit him for roles more romantic than that. There is Gaglianone, for example, who played in the Jonathan Miller *Cost for TV* and which he repeated here in "Il core vi dono", joined by Anne Sofie von Otter in the choicest item of the evening.

Miss von Otter's roguish looks did not suit her too well for Marguerite's "D'Amour l'ardente flamme", but her account of Cenerentola's closing Rondo suggested someone should be mounting Rossini's fairy tale for her right now. Aprile Millo is a Verdi soprano constructed on battle-ship lines with a voice to match. Paata Burchuladze is no sylph either: Don Basilio's "La calunnia" (Rossini was much in favour in this transmission) went better than Green's aria from Eugene Onegin.

Two clips from a recital given by Callas herself in Hamburg in 1962 framed the concert. Wavering sound and stolid filming did not help Carmen's Habanera but the videos should be whirling for her account of Eboli's "O don fatale".

The whole is accompanied by a helpful and informative commentary by Humphrey Burton and some useless clips of the young stars at play: Burchuladze looking up a dead pheasant outside Milan and Hampson jogging through an improbably sunlit Switzerland.

J. H.

## Young love and old jealousies

## THEATRE

School for Wives  
Lyttelton

Following Cheek by Jowl's modern-dress version of *Le Cid* and the Edinburgh Lyceum's Lallans translation of *Le Malade Imaginaire*, this third assault on the fortress of French classicism enlists Molière as an honorary feminist.

I have never seen the play before: and the dominant impact is of how far, in craftsmanship and human understanding, *L'École des Femmes* exceeds Restoration variations on the theme of the jealous old cuckold and the child bride.

The obvious comparison is with *The Country Wife*, which borrows numerous details from Molière, including the smuggled love letter and the central device of showing ignorance backfiring on its instigator. But where Wycherley's Mr Finkelstein is an anecdotal victim who exists solely to have horns fixed to his mean old head, Molière's Arnolphe is a fully realized character: generous, a loyal friend, even capable of love. He may have brought up his ward Agnes in ignorance so as to exercise total control over her as his wife but he also has a well-developed intellectual defence for doing so.

It is a policy that arises from the 17th-century preoccupation with the uses of education, and the belief in the newborn human being as a



Agnes (Julia Ford) confesses to her guardian (David Ryall) how she met her lover Horatio

*tabula rasa* best preserved from the corrupting graffiti of experience.

In Di Trevis's production the argument and precision-turned intrigue come swathed in an atmosphere of decorative romance that displaces the comedy and seem intended to enthrone Agnes as the play's presiding spirit.

Julia Ford plays her with a well-judged balance of trust and good nature, gradually overtaken by apprehension as she learns the marital servitude awaiting her, and finally casting Arnolphe off without the least trace of vindictiveness. It is, however, an idealized performance which hardly admits the possibility that she might become a victim.

She has the full weight of the production to protect her from that languorous, baroque strings heralding her entrances, an astrological sky cloth (by Pamela Howard)

featuring Leo and Virgo, which opens up as a drawbridge to heaven once she is paired with her beloved Horatio (Neil Dudgeon).

David Ryall plays Arnolphe in the British manner as an over-confident bourgeois riding for a fall. He does not push this to grotesque excess. His bursts of friendship are genuine: so is his gentle treatment of Agnes for as long as she submits to him. What is missing is the sight of a man who has come to middle-age as an amused spectator of human folly, finding himself in the role of a fool.

With his nasal whine, and inebriated smug lectures on domestic discipline, Mr Ryall incarnates the character from the start. He is extremely effective once the action gets moving and every step he takes to safeguard Agnes from Horatio results in the lover getting closer to his prize. Mr Ryall is a master of stunned

silences and apologetic shock. Where he fails is in the crucial moment when, at the height of his anger, he discovers his real feelings for Agnes and, for the first time, refers to love.

Robert David MacDonald's translation achieves an impressive English equivalent of the Alexandrine line: a generally effortless flow of rhythmic iambs, combining verbal and metrical wit. What remains unfocused is the verbal tone, which slips between modern speech, Shakespearean quotation, and archaism.

As for comic mechanics, Miss Trevis offers numerous strokes of witty invention, such as the sight of Arnolphe tripping over the stone that wrapped up the fatal letter.

Such moments, however, are isolated, and the prevailing impression is of a marked lack of comic energy.

Irving Wardle

A Wholly Healthy  
Glasgow  
Royal Exchange

Iain Hoggie's rich, unpredictable comedy was a Mobil prize winner in 1985 and, though it is scheduled to run for only 2½ weeks at this theatre, I cannot believe so original, inventive and joyful a piece will then vanish.

At the Spartan Health Club somewhere in Glasgow, the masseur and the senior instructor have established a profitable system that supplies the instructor with extra cash and the masseur with his nooky. Their realm is suddenly threatened by the arrival of a pink-cheeked, wide-eyed youngster, fresh from his initiation training course at Pontefract.

The bent masseur is thrown by Murdo's eagerness to do well, his transfixing honesty and angelic trust in the wisdom of his instructors. The more devoted Charley nets the lad in a web of lying praise but even he cannot cope with Murdo's confession that he is not in the business for money. The play's title is his aim. He wants to make Glasgow "a city of perfectly proportioned, sinuous but not over devel-

oped physiques... a city of reposeful but alert minds". The hurdles obstructing this laudable but ludicrous aim — not only in the health club — and his own cautiously blossoming confidence provide the comic material of the funniest play I have seen for months.

Iain Hoggie, currently writer in residence at the Royal Exchange, creates fantastic idiomatic speeches, much of them unprintable in a family newspaper (though the script is published by a new imprint, Oberon Books of Birmingham). Two of the characters speak in such broad "Glesga" accents that one like a handful of leather balls bouncing downstairs. But the car soon grows used to this and can talk in such dancing phrases as "Don't hatchet my happiness", the ambiguous "apres-massage", and the rhythmic insults, convoluted but uncommonly precise.

Directed by Richard Wilson with an alert eye for the small movements that flesh out emotion, the cast are Tom Watson, Gerard Kelly and Paul Higgins. I do not expect to see their performances bettered.

Jeremy Kingston

LSO/  
Rozhdestvensky  
Barbican

The London orchestras, striving to bring more coherence and memorability to their seasons, are increasingly pinning their hopes on thematic concert series (or "festivals" as they are usually, portentously, entitled). The latest, *Stravinsky Plus*, comes from the LSO, with lunchtime contributions from Guildhall students and a Barbican foyer exhibition, *Dearest Bubushkin*, depicting the great man at work and play.

Each of the LSO's six concerts places Stravinsky's music beside other compositions written in the same year. In this latest one, "1910" and *The Firebird* was preceded by Elgar's Violin Concerto, which perhaps demonstrates that even programmes worthy attempting to be logical and didactic sometimes end up being merely spurious.

In this context, Elgar was clearly meant to be seen as the Last Romantic; Stravinsky as the New Modern. Unfortunately, our ears tell us that *The Firebird* fits comfortably into the fantastical-ballet tradition of Tchaikovsky and Rimsky-

Stravinsky, while it is the Elgar concerto, with its secretive and complex web of connected themes, that displays the intellectual rigour and psychological sophistication which became the quintessence of 20th-century music.

Looking at matters more straightforwardly, however, these are two works that Gennadi Rozhdestvensky obviously loves to conduct, and his ebullient presence is the other factor unifying these concerts. The overwhelming impression when he directs *The Firebird* is that it is being interpreted by someone who has lived this work in the theatre, who has the movement, the colour and the pace of the dancers in mind throughout.

He plays on the quirky theatricality of the linking episodes (so much more pronounced in the original score than in the more often heard suite version), and gives the woodwind principals plenty of

Russian colour,  
British passion

## CONCERTS

space to find the ironic nub of their solos. He was rewarded with some highly characteristic playing, of which the contributions of the double-bassoon were (perhaps inevitably) most memorable.

Rozhdestvensky's view of Stravinsky is a broad and genial one; the analytical perception of a Boulez or an Abbado is not for him. But one should not underestimate the precision of the technical control he exerts, nor (although it sounds hackneyed) the special quality that a top class Russian can bring to this music. That will be the ultimate attraction of *Stravinsky Plus*.

Ida Haendel was the violin soloist in the Elgar concerto, bringing to it a characteristic passion and strength. She seized on the *andante*, in particular, in a way that was far removed from the stiff upper-lip reticence that still occasionally passes for good Elgar style.

To this Rozhdestvensky responded with a big, opulent orchestral accompaniment, perhaps turning the "windflower" themes into somewhat sturdy plants, but stopping well short of grandiloquence.

Within the context of such an individual conception, Miss Haendel's occasional technical problems did not seem important; on the other hand, the numerous moments of imperfect rapport between soloist and orchestra were frequently intrusive.

Richard Morrison

Striking  
out on  
her own

No illusions: Sara Wolfenson

Being the daughter of a bigwig at New York's Carnegie Hall has its advantages when you're a budding concert pianist, says 23-year-old Sara Wolfenson, whose second London recital at the Barbican last week won her such excellent notices. You do get to meet your musical heroes socially. Better, they become friends. Best of all, they feel obliged to hear you play. But if they don't like your sound, says Sara, you're no nearer the concert platform.

Most of them don't handle very well the information that her father, James D. Wolfenson, is chairman of the board at Carnegie Hall. But, as a banker who loves music, his extra-curricular role at Carnegie is purely a fund-raising one. "I would never tell anyone back at school," she says — she's in her sixth and final postgraduate year at New York's famous hot house of talent, the Juilliard.

In any case, Ms Wolfenson, an ebullient and petite girl with humorous eyes, a mass of dark brown curls and child-size hands, is doing well off her own back. She made her London debut in 1985 playing with the London Chamber Orchestra; she returned to the Barbican this month, and plans a third Barbican recital this spring.

She took up the piano at

seven and is glad her parents were music lovers but not professional performers. "It meant I just discovered the piano and I loved it myself." She also counts herself lucky to have had a strong role-model in her present Russian piano teacher, Bella Davidovich.

Sara was born in Sydney but home is now a one-room apartment near the Juilliard. She practices six hours a day and jogs in Central Park to unwind. Next stops are Brazil and Venezuela. In May, California in November and a tour of Israel when she can fit it in.

Sara is under few illusions about the toughness of her chosen path. "It's terribly competitive. You need stamina to survive the travelling and the hassles. You've got to look good and feminine all the time, and of course you need talent. And you've got to be married to your instrument. You can't put oodles of time into a serious relationship."

Angela Wilkes

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Don't miss the LSO concerts in the Stravinsky Plus series at the Barbican Hall (Feb 1, 8, 12, 15 & 22). Conducted by Gennadi Rozhdestvensky. For full details see today's Times Concerts Section.

مكتبة الأمل



## REVIEW

## Wand's magic touch

## CLASSICAL RECORDS

Schubert: Complete Symphonies. Cologne Radio Symphony Orchestra/Wand. EMI EX 15 15 5527 3 (5LPs)

The queue which snakes its way round the riverside precinct of Cologne's new philharmonie whenever Günter Wand returns to conduct is second only to that which circles Covent Garden on a Domingo night. I shivered in it last December, the month in which London, too, was given a welcome reminder of Wand's way with Bruckner. His Schubert, culled from comparatively recent performances between 1978 and 1984, opens his 75th year, and celebrates the lure of the magic Wand in fine style.

The irresistible attraction of this veteran of the German symphonic tradition lies in the sense of truth and well-being he brings to any performance: whatever decisions are made are justified in practice down to the last detail, so that for the duration you are tempted to wonder how on earth it could ever have worked any other way. The second movement of the "Unfinished", for example, is almost unbearably slow, yet Wand has chosen his tempo precisely to enable his woodwinds to make every stroke of the harmonic movement tell. The result is the creation of a sense of suspended time, not dissimilar to that in the great C major String Quintet.

For Schubert, as for Bruckner, the pulse is taken always from the standpoint of the work as a whole, and made the foundation for an extraordinary impetus of legato playing by his richly-voiced strings. The opening of the "Unfinished" pursues its way forward, not along the pulsating and figurative "Great" C major it is the rhythmic cells which are worked with a near-minimalist intensity, enabling shifts of metre, and determining the relationship of pace between sections.

With this Cologne orchestra there is always the added surprise and delight of the woodwind: the piping of a typically penetrating cor Anglais above temporarily parting the veil in the "Unfinished", or the entrance of their last little chorus in *Rosamunde's* Second Ballet Suite. The earlier symphonies, particularly the featherweight Third and the kid-gloved Fourth, find their brio through texture first and tempo second.

A similar sense of inevitability rises from Wand's Mozart; though in a recording made at the end of last year with Christian Zacharias and the North German Radio Orchestra (EMI EL 270 4151), it turns to rather over-tranquilizing effect.

Within view of Uchida's watercolours, Perahia's pen-and-ink, and the etchings of Brendel, these seem stolid, comforting old masters. In the K595, ballast and balance win the day over fancy and imagination.

Hilary Finch

## Matters of life and death

An Enormous Year in Memoriam Philip Larkin (1922-1985) edited by Harry Chambers (Penguin Poets, £4.50)



The trouble with writing elegies for Philip Larkin is that he did the job better than anyone else. Larkin wrote the best memorial poems on Larkin in the language. In verse resonating with a long tradition of English elegy, Larkin used himself as the raw materials for those phrases which have gained universal, if uneasy, status.

Life is first boredom, then fear. Whether or not we use it, it goes. And leaves what something hidden from us close. And age, and then the only end of age.

"If you assume you're going to live to be 70, seven decades," he told Miriam Gross in 1979, "and think of each decade as a day of the week, starting with Sunday, then I'm on Friday afternoon now. Rather a shock, isn't it? If you ask me why does it bother me, I can only say I dread endless extinction."

Larkin dreaded death beyond anything ("nothing more terrible, nothing more true," he wrote in "Aubade") and inherited a literary tradition drenched in it. Hardy and Edward Thomas both possessed that melancholy, grimly straightforward romanticism — a sadness that things wither and die; that happiness is more fruitfully imagined than experienced — whose spectre haunts Larkin's every line. Happiness, Larkin found, was possible "if only because you know that you are going to die, and the people you love are going to die."

So the poems in this slim, variable volume are just against something: not just Larkin's death, but the beauty with which he wrote about his, and other, death. Most of them are not up to it, and adequate literary homage becomes even more difficult when some of the poets borrow from Larkin out of context.

When Meg Peacocke writes:

James Wood

"Yet since you've snuffed it, how the dark creeps in," her "snuffed it," ripped untimely from the bowels of a quite different Larkin poem, just like a stubbed toe.

Poems that begin sad with grief end up sad for the wrong reasons: instead of musing on the death of Larkin, we are drawn to bemoan, in some cases, the likely death of English poetry itself. They do not mean it, these inexperienced poets like Robert Hull and David Stanton, but their poems are an inadvertent disrespect.

Andrew Motion, who wrote a poem for the TLS which is reprinted here, is a huge and honourable exception. Soft and serious, tentatively melancholic, Motion's poem is a superb tribute. "I've nothing to live for, have I?" Larkin, in his nursing home, tells the visiting Motion:

Christ, don't answer. You'll tell me I have. Like seeing Becker at Wimbledon, waiting.

He looked just like young Auden.

The prose tributes, generally stolen from good writers and those good newspapers where they first appeared, are much more moving than most of the poems.

Peter Levi, writing originally for *The Sunday Telegraph*, understands what made Larkin such an exciting journalist and essayist. "His prose is both sober and brilliant, it is like wonderful conversation, it is completely macabre." If Larkin belonged to a poetic tradition, he also belonged to a prose-writers' pedigree: that lineage of prose writers who have also written dazzling part-time prose (what Larkin called "hack work") Chesterton, Auden, Gore Vidal.

There are several new photographs between the poems in this book — Larkin with Lowell, Larkin with Ted Hughes, Larkin with a cigarette. The last, "At his office desk, 1984", shows the poet ill, fleshy, bespectacled, bald as a shiny chess. It is more poignant than any of the poems, the pieces, the future books.

James Wood



A rare photograph of Larkin reading a poem in 1982, one of several poignant pictures in the book, and (right) a self-portrait

## The grating cultural divides

Stories by Sergio Ramirez (Readers International, £3.95)

Sergio Ramirez is a well-known writer and politician in Nicaragua, and a leading member of the Sandinista National Liberation Front. In these stories, translated into English for the first time, he shows various dilemmas for South Americans faced with the overbearing culture of their North American neighbours. In "Charles Atlas Also Dies", a naive young man develops his physique by becoming a devotee of an American body-builder. His whole-hearted belief in his cult hero is rudely shattered when he travels to New York to meet him and discovers the reality behind the elaborate publicity.

In another story, the members of a country club in Managua have such

## BOOKS IN BRIEF

illusions of grandeur that they are hoaxed into believing they are going to play host to Jackie Kennedy. They are simple stories which Ramirez fills with sensuous details of everyday life. He describes the exact stages of a baseball match or the precise texture of someone's clothes. Above all, he has a strong sense of pathos and the disillusionment of people caught between two cultures.

The *Adventures of Speedball* by John Fuller (Penguin, £2.95)

John Fuller is a fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford. Speedball, the character he has created to be the mainstay of these stories, is a philosophy don at an

Oxford college, and immersed in the intrigues of the senior common room. He is a silly man, liable to the sort of misjudgements that lead to inconveniences sometimes bizarre, but more often just tedious. All the academic stereotypes are there: some are locked in conflict about whether to sell off part of the college estates, others are worried about an election to an Honorary Fellowship and who is going to get it, or whose bit of research discredits someone else's.

Do people in Oxford colleges really live these little lives or is it a wholly artificial convention? Either way, it is hard to see who, outside the academic ghetto, could be entertained by these scenes of petty jealousy, Geriatric school stories are not really appealing.

Anne Barnes

## Gems from a time capsule

For five consecutive years at the beginning of the 1950s, when the era of the big bands was giving way to bebop and rock 'n' roll, the winners of the *Melody Maker* readers' jazz poll were herded into the studio to record, under the direction of whoever had been voted *Melody Maker* of the Year, enough material for a couple of 78 rpm releases, the first of which would be in the shops within a week of the announcement of the results. Those were, indeed, simpler times.

As part of a welcome re-activation of the catalogue of the Esquire label, which specialised in mainstream and modern jazz during the Fifties and early Sixties, these long-forgotten items can now be found in the rather jolly "Living Presence Sound", on a matched pair of LPs.

John Dankworth, whose confident alto saxophone solos (by Parker out of Konitz) stand practically every track, did

## JAZZ RECORDS

*Melody Maker* All Stars  
Waxing the Winners 1951-52-53 (Esquire S 527); Waxing the Winners 1954-55 (Esquire S 528)

rected the sessions of 1951, '52 and '54, providing simple frameworks for round-robin solos by musicians whose regular employment was in the big bands — notably the trombonists Don Lusher and Keith Christie, the saxophonists Vic Ash and Ronnie Chamberlain, the pianist Bill McGuffie, the guitarist Bill Mairants and the formidable precocious teenage vibraphonist Victor Feldman.

Two drummers, Jack Parnell and Eric Delaney, won the right to direct the sessions of, respectively, 1953 and '55, but the supporting cast remained largely unchanged — although the compositions supplied by Reg Owen for the 1953 seem a

cut above anything from Dankworth's pen. The second LP is bulked out by four tracks featuring a septet representing the "new stars" nominated in the 1952 *MM* critics' poll, led by the pianist Ralph Dellamare.

At this distance, two individual talents rise above the general level of enthusiastic competence: Ronnie Scott, shaping his mentholated tenor saxophone improvisations with a devoted bebopper's reflexive detachment from the tubby surroundings of a poll-winners' session; and Kenny Baker, whose highly wrought Armstrong-inspired trumpet phrases still stand in high profile against the general air of self-conscious modernism.

Such contrasts are the real charm of records which come at the contemporary listener with all the poignancy of a time capsule.

Richard Williams



Breathy, Bob Geldof style: Shriekback's Barry Andrews

## Against all odds

## ROCK RECORDS

Shriekback: *Big Night Music* (Island 90552-1)  
Holger Caspary: *Rome Remains Rome* (Virgin V2408)

Despite the consistently high standard of their recorded work, Shriekback have enjoyed precious little chart success, yet here they are with their fifth album, *Big Night Music*, a collection boasting a rich diversity of moods and music, bristling with imaginative polyrhythmic textures.

Contrasts abound: the huge nightmare noises and blasting brass section on "Black Light Trap" set the speaker cones rattling, while "Pretty Little Things" is constructed around the most fragile of plinking percussion noises. The quiet malice of "The Reptiles and I" gives way to the jokey fizz of "Sucky Jazz". And like the calm soothing chorus of "Underwater Boys", most of

the songs are blessed with tastefully tuneful melodies, sung by Barry Andrews in a breathy, Bob Geldof style. The roadblocks to wider acclaim are firstly the music's elusive quality and secondly the style of the lyrics, which depend on imprecise metaphysical evocations that offer the listener few footholds to gain emotional purchase.

Holger Caspary, leader of the erstwhile Can, continues to uphold the vows that married the German experimentalist tradition to the techniques of electro/hip hop. *Rome Remains Rome* is a tremendously imaginative patchwork of music and eccentric Teutonic rap. Caspary even manages on "Blessed Easter" to blend extracts of the Pope's Easter message with Jab Wobble's gleazy jazz bass into a pleasingly harmonious whole.

David Sinclair

Gavin Bell

## BRIDGE

## Worlds apart when the cards are down

♠AQ72  
♥AK762  
♦54  
♣54

♠AJ74  
♥AJ74  
♦63  
♣104

on the basis that by opening one heart and rebidding two hearts, the spade suit may be lost. Too many adventures in 4-3 fits have persuaded most people that it is a folly. Norman Squire remains unconvinced, even when the suits are ♠6543 and ♥AKQJ10.

The first major schism appears in the treatment of 4-4-1 hands. Traditionally the "rule" was to open the suit below the singleton. I have persistently attacked that notion, suggesting that a better guide is to open the middle of three touching suits or, if the three suits are not touching, one club.

There is little argument when the singleton is in a minor suit. With a singleton spade, it is a different story. The Experts vote: one heart, 47, one diamond, 37, one club, 16.

The Teachers vote: one heart, 88, one diamond, 10, one club, 2.

And there is an even greater disparity with a singleton heart.

The Experts vote: one diamond, 59, one club, 41.

The Teachers vote: one diamond, 92, one club, 8.

The 4-4-3-2 hands also reveal that the experts and teachers are far apart:

Eighty-eight per cent of the teachers were prepared to set to sea in the leaking boat provided by their mirrors.

But where is it evidently correct to respond at the two level, the teachers perversely do otherwise.

♠Q754  
♥72  
♦A4  
♣AKJ54

In response to one diamond, 98 per cent of the experts opt for two clubs, while 43 per cent of the teachers suggest one spade.

Possibly the worst gap in the teachers' fundamental appreciation of bidding appears in the questions on jump take-outs.

♠AKJ107  
♥AK64  
♦QJ2  
♣104

In response to one diamond, this hand needs time and space to develop, which explains why 77 per cent of the experts select one spade. 81 per cent of the teachers recommend two spades.

Of course there are teachers and teachers. Indeed, it was a teacher who drew my attention to the disturbing picture that Eric Crowhurst's census presents.

The English Bridge Union Teachers Association conduct annual examinations. There seem to be good grounds for suggesting that some aspects of the curriculum should be sharply revised, so that teachers may be fully conversant with accepted modern practice.

Jeremy Flint

## CHESS

## Master squares up to a giant-killing

Nigel Short, England's top-ranked Grandmaster, is gaining in strength by the week. At OHRA in Brussels last December he was crushed by Korchnoi. Now in Wijk aan Zee, he outplayed the great veteran to gain an ample revenge. In February comes his severest test, a six-game match against Karpov.

On the evidence of the following game, Nigel stands a good chance of putting up a fine fight.

White: Short; Black: Korchnoi. Wijk aan Zee 1987, French Defence.

1 ♠e4 ♠e5 2 ♠f3 ♠f6 3 ♠c3 ♠c6 4 ♠g3 ♠g6 5 ♠d4 ♠d5 6 ♠h3 ♠h6 7 ♠e5 ♠e4 8 ♠f4 ♠f5 9 ♠g4 ♠g6 10 ♠h4 ♠h6 11 ♠g5 ♠g6 12 ♠f6 ♠f5 13 ♠e5 ♠e4 14 ♠f4 ♠f5 15 ♠g4 ♠g6 16 ♠h4 ♠h6 17 ♠g5 ♠g6 18 ♠f6 ♠f5 19 ♠e5 ♠e4 20 ♠f4 ♠f5 21 ♠g4 ♠g6 22 ♠h4 ♠h6 23 ♠g5 ♠g6 24 ♠f6 ♠f5 25 ♠e5 ♠e4 26 ♠f4 ♠f5 27 ♠g4 ♠g6 28 ♠h4 ♠h6 29 ♠g5 ♠g6 30 ♠f6 ♠f5 31 ♠e5 ♠e4 32 ♠f4 ♠f5 33 ♠g4 ♠g6 34 ♠h4 ♠h6 35 ♠g5 ♠g6 36 ♠f6 ♠f5 37 ♠e5 ♠e4 38 ♠f4 ♠f5 39 ♠g4 ♠g6 40 ♠h4 ♠h6 41 ♠g5 ♠g6 42 ♠f6 ♠f5 43 ♠e5 ♠e4 44 ♠f4 ♠f5 45 ♠g4 ♠g6 46 ♠h4 ♠h6 47 ♠g5 ♠g6 48 ♠f6 ♠f5 49 ♠e5 ♠e4 50 ♠f4 ♠f5 51 ♠g4 ♠g6 52 ♠h4 ♠h6 53 ♠g5 ♠g6 54 ♠f6 ♠f5 55 ♠e5 ♠e4 56 ♠f4 ♠f5 57 ♠g4 ♠g6 58 ♠h4 ♠h6 59 ♠g5 ♠g6 60 ♠f6 ♠f5 61 ♠e5 ♠e4 62 ♠f4 ♠f5 63 ♠g4 ♠g6 64 ♠h4 ♠h6 65 ♠g5 ♠g6 66 ♠f6 ♠f5 67 ♠e5 ♠e4 68 ♠f4 ♠f5 69 ♠g4 ♠g6 70 ♠h4 ♠h6 71 ♠g5 ♠g6 72 ♠f6 ♠f5 73 ♠e5 ♠e4 74 ♠f4 ♠f5 75 ♠g4 ♠g6 76 ♠h4 ♠h6 77 ♠g5 ♠g6 78 ♠f6 ♠f5 79 ♠e5 ♠e4 80 ♠f4 ♠f5 81 ♠g4 ♠g6 82 ♠h4 ♠h6 83 ♠g5 ♠g6 84 ♠f6 ♠f5 85 ♠e5 ♠e4 86 ♠f4 ♠f5 87 ♠g4 ♠g6 88 ♠h4 ♠h6 89 ♠g5 ♠g6 90 ♠f6 ♠f5 91 ♠e5 ♠e4 92 ♠f4 ♠f5 93 ♠g4 ♠g6 94 ♠h4 ♠h6 95 ♠g5 ♠g6 96 ♠f6 ♠f5 97 ♠e5 ♠e4 98 ♠f4 ♠f5 99 ♠g4 ♠g6 100 ♠h4 ♠h6

In Brussels a month ago, Short lost to Korchnoi with 7 N3. Now he tries a more aggressive continuation involving a singular rush forward with his "h" pawn.

Black threatens to molest the white Queen with ... ♠a6, but he must also accept a weak pawn at b6.

White sacrifices a second pawn, but Black cannot hold it for long.

Short proceeds with truly admirable sangfroid. By protecting c2 with his King White threatens to win with g4, knocking out the props from Black's Knights.

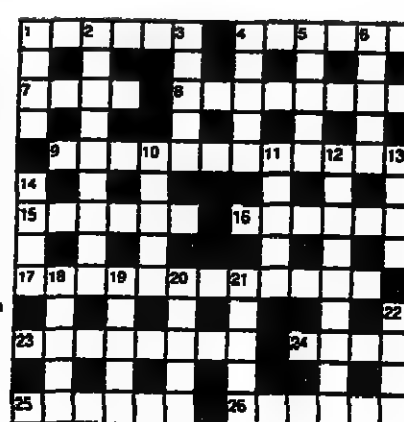
Raymond Keene

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1170

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, February 5. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, February 7.

ACROSS  
1 Sacred beetle (6)  
4 Downpour (6)  
7 Information (4)  
8 Double magnism (8)  
9 Spanish adventurer (12)  
15 Formal relinquishment (6)  
16 Panthera onca (6)  
17 Royal verse maker (4,6)  
23 Canceled (5)  
24 Play lead (4)  
25 Germanic vowel sign (6)  
26 Hostage price (6)

DOWN  
1 Lather (4)  
2 Empower (9)  
3 Trunk (5)  
4 Challenges (5)  
5 Zodiac scales (5)  
6 Sea bird dung fertilizer (5)  
10 Subdue (5)  
11 Vestige (5)  
12 Intrepid (9)  
13 Uncommon (4)  
14 Exchange (4)  
18 Repugnance (5)  
19 Jewelled headress (5)  
20 Apportion (5)  
21 Oarsman (5)  
22 Wander (4)



SOLUTION TO NO 1169  
ACROSS: 1 Manual 4 Junkie 7 Nick 8 Commando 9 Creeper 11 Quire 12 Bouillabaisse 15 Vault 16 Vehicle 20 Solenoid 21 Turn 22 Tryout 23 Dactyl

DOWN: 1 Minicab 2 Niche 3 Lycee 4 Lamb 5 Kennels 6 Elope 10 Piel 11 Quash 13 Usually 14 Eternal 15 Vint 17 Eased 18 Cruet 19 Bolt

The winners of prize concise No 1164 are: Mr J. Jolly: High Street, Newarthill, Strathclyde, Scotland; and Mrs J. Roberts, Touchstone Lane, Chard, Somerset.

SOLUTION TO NO 1164 (last Saturday's prize concise)  
ACROSS: 1 Beadle 4 Rumpole 7 Note 8 Downfall 9 San Francisco 15 Ethnic 16 Tripod 17 Soar et lumière 23 Offender 24 Zero 25 Crayon 26 Hedera

DOWN: 1 Bond 2 Asrakhan 3 Elder 4 Rowan 5 Mufli 6 Lure 10 Foot 11 Corp 12 Supercede 13 Odds 14 Meas 18 Offer 19 Every 20 Loden 21 Mirth 22 Iola

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_



## THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

## Return to sender

Alasdair Milne should be aware that his former employers have remarkably short memories when it comes to remembering ex-executives.

Dick Francis, who was sacked as managing director BBC Radio last year after a policy disagreement with Milne, already knows this.

A senior figure in the arts world recently addressed a luncheon invitation to him c/o the BBC, with a request for it to be forwarded. It duly arrived at the home of another Dick Francis, the former jockey and best-selling author, who declined the invitation.

Let's hope Milne's personal letters are not sent on to Pooh Corner.

Those canny Scots have just concluded a smart deal with an arts complex in America. Interior plasterwork of the Donmeline Opera House, demolished in 1981, is being shipped to Sarasota, Florida, along with drawings and photographs of the auditorium to be reassembled in new theatre. The \$15,000 profit will be used to finance an arts project in the Fife city.

## Gospel truth

The gospel according to Burnett: ITN executives were briefing newscaster John Suchet the other day on how to present their celestial Super Channel bulletins to European viewers with a limited command of English.



Sir Alastair and John Suchet

Then along came the scholarly Sir Alastair with a helpful suggestion. For clarity, he said, the compilers of the King James Version of the Bible (published in 1611) were instructed to limit their vocabulary to 8,000 words, so John should do the same for the benefit of ITN disciples. It remains to be seen if the continental audience will be any the wiser.

## Play it down

Terry Hands apparently does not wish to be seen to be too ambitious in his first season as sole artistic director of the Royal Shakespeare Company. A draft press release announcing plans for the 1987 season was censured before presentation to the media.

Out, at his suggestion, went the offending paragraph: "a season which will be even more ambitious than its history" announced by the company last year. Modesty prevails.

## No Kidding

An exhibition opening in Birmingham today features exotic patchwork quilts by Siripan Kidd, using the rich silks of her native Thailand. However, there is no tradition of quilt-making in Thailand. Her art was inspired by a visit to a folk museum in far-away Leeds.

Gavin Bell



## THE WEEK AHEAD



## FILMS

**JUNGLE BOOK:** Harrison Ford is reunited with the director of *Witness*, Peter Weir, in *The Mosquito Coast* (PG), an atmospheric adventure based on Paul Theroux's novel about a family taking refuge from fast foods and vulgarity in the rivers and jungle of Central America. For Ford, the film takes him further away from the comic-strip simplicities of Indiana Jones; for Weir, Theroux's story echoes his usual concern for misplaced cultures. Helen Mirren plays Ford's wife, Odeon Haymarket (01-930 2738), from Thursday.



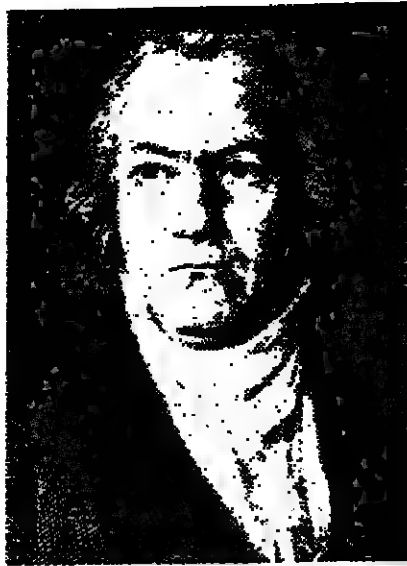
## RADIO

**AFTER HENRY:** Patricia Hayes first became a familiar voice on radio as the schoolboy detective, Henry Bones, in *Children's Hour*. She later specialized in comedy, stooging for Ted Ray and Tony Hancock, before announcing herself as a straight actress in *Edna the Inebriate Woman*. She is in the West End with *The House of Bernarda Alba* and returns to radio to play one of the most enduring Dickens characters, Sairey Gamp, in a new 10-part production of *Martin Chuzzlewit*. Radio 4, tomorrow, 7-8pm.



## COUNTRY MUSIC

**IN THE FAMILY:** The Judds are the country singing mother and daughter from Morristown, Kentucky whose rise to million-selling status in the last two years carries all the hallmarks of an epic fairy tale. Wynonna (left) and her mother Naomi developed a singularly pure and intuitive harmonizing style that has struck a chord with a new generation of country devotees attracted not least by the couple's unpretentious lack of showy Nashville commercialism. They make their British debut tomorrow at the London Palladium (01-437 7373).



## CONCERTS

**ODE TO JOY:** Ludwig van Beethoven and his Ninth Symphony are the subject of *The Beethoven Experience*, "a weekend of musical enjoyment and discovery" presented by Roger Norrington and the London Classical Players. The event takes a similar format to last year's *Haydn Experience* and comprises three days of talks and recitals culminating in a full performance of the symphony, using period instruments. Queen Elizabeth Hall and Purcell Room, London SE1 (01-928 3191), Friday to Sunday, February 8.



## FILMS ON TV

**FAIR SEX:** Ida Lupino, British-born daughter of the comedian Stanley Lupino, has had a long Hollywood career as an actress, often playing strong-minded women, and she is also one of the handful of women who have produced and directed films. Her various talents are celebrated in a BBC2 season which starts with her role as Humphrey Bogart's moll (above) in the 1941 film, *High Sierra* (Friday, 11.15pm-1am). To come are *The Edge*, which she directed, and *Private Hell 36*, on which she was the co-writer.



## THEATRE

**TOUR DE FORCE:** Frances de la Tour plays the American dramatist, Lillian Hellman, in *Lillian*, a one-woman play by William Luce based on Hellman's memoirs and charting her 30-year relationship with the thriller writer, Dashiell Hammett. Hellman wrote three books of autobiography, the accuracy of which has fuelled a long-running controversy. Directed by Corin Redgrave, the show gets a West End run after being tried out last year on Sunday nights. Fortune Theatre (01-836 2288), from Wednesday.

## CONCERTS

**MITCHELL'S MOZART:** Madeleine Mitchell plays various violin works by Mozart, including the Sonata K 580 and 528, the Variations K 595. David Ward is at the piano. St John's, Smith Square, London SW1 (01-222 1061). Today, 7.30pm.

**STRAVINSKY PLUS:** The Barbican's series continues with Gennadi Rozhdestvensky conducting the LSO in Stravinsky's *Petrushka*, Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé*, and Viktoria Postnikova solos in Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No 1. Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (01-628 8795). Tomorrow, 7.30pm.

**PREVIN/RPO II:** André Previn conducts the RPO in Berlioz's *Le Corsaire Overture* and *Symphonie fantastique*, and this all-French programme is completed by Alicia de Larrocha soloing in Ravel's G major Piano Concerto. Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 3191). Mon, 7.30pm.

**MOZART MASS:** Mozart's Mass in C minor K 427 is performed by the London Philharmonic Choir, Orchestra and Soloists under Franz Wälder-Most. It is prefaced by Schubert's Symphony No 4 "Tragic". Festival Hall, Tues, 7.30pm.

**WAND/BBC SO:** Two symphonies, Mozart's No 40 and Tchaikovsky's No 6 "Patétique", are played by the BBC SO under Guntar Wand. Festival Hall, Wed, 7.30pm.

**PREVIN/RPO II:** The RPO is again conducted by André Previn, this time in Mozart's *Sine die* Requiem, Tchaikovsky's Symphony No 5, and Rudi Lupo solos in Mozart's Piano Concerto K 453. Festival Hall, Thurs, 7.30pm.

**FREMAUX/RPO:** Louis Frémaux's turn to conduct the RPO, in Saint-Saëns's Symphony No 3, with John Birch joining in on the organ. Before that, Jeremy Menuhin solos in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 5 "Emperor". Barbican Centre, Fri, 7.45pm.

## FILMS

## OPENINGS

**THE KEEP (18):** Cock-eyed Second World War fantasy, made in 1983, in which German troops wake up a supernatural being in a Romanian fortress. Directed by Michael Mann, creator of the TV show *Miami Vice*, with Scott Glenn, Alberta Watson. ICA Cinematheque, from Mon.

**WHEN THE WIND BLOWS (18):** Animated version of Raymond Briggs's best-seller about a placid old couple, quintessentially British, facing a nuclear attack. Directed by Jimmy Mursakami, John Mills and Peggy Ashcroft provide the voices of Jim and Hilda. Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527), Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (01-836 8279), and cinemas around the country, from Fri.

**A JUDGMENT IN STONE (15):** Ruth Rendell's novel about a plain Jane illiterate who becomes a killer, carelessly filmed in Canada by Ousama Rawi, a commercials veteran; with Rita Tushingham. Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5095), Cannon Odeon Kensington (01-602 6644), from Fri.

**JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS (15):** Well-behaved tearjerker with Mary Tyler Moore as the woman fleeing from her domestic shell by her husband's infidelity. With Ted Danson; written and directed by Allan Burns. Cannon Panton Street (01-930 0631), from Fri.

## SELECTED

**THE NAME OF THE ROSE (18):** Umberto Eco's intellectual thriller set in a medieval monastery. Strongly atmospheric; with Sean Connery as the monkish Miss Marple harrying out an arcane mystery. Cannon Haymarket (01-839 1527).

**DOWN BY LAW (15):** Jim Jarmusch's wry comedy about three misfits who escape from a New Orleans prison; with a scene-stealing performance by Roberto Benigni.

## Screen on the Hill (01-222 0220), Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366).

**THE SACRIFICE (15):** Andrei Tarkovsky's testament to a starkly beautiful parable, shot in Sweden, with Erland Josephson as the intellectual hero facing the world's end. Lumiere (01-836 0691).

## GALLERIES OPENINGS

**JOHN HOYLAND:** New pictures and prints by this endlessly innovative doyen of decorative abstract painting. Waddington Galleries, 2 & 3, Cork Street, London W1 (01-437 8611). From Wed.

**GERALD SCARFE:** Stage and film set designs for *Orpheus in the Underworld* and *The Wall*, as well as drawings of actors, made by the infamous caricaturist. Lyttelton Circle Foyer, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (01-928 2033). From Mon.



**Felix Nussbaum's Self Portrait With Jewish Identity Card (above)** is one of many striking paintings and sculptures made by the victims of Nazism. Nussbaum himself died at Auschwitz in 1944. Works by other Jewish artists are included in *Where To Now?*, accompanying a photo-documentary survey of the life of diarist Anne Frank. At Athanasium Gallery, Princess Street, Manchester (061 236 9422).

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## OPERA

**ROYAL OPERA HOUSE:** One last performance of *Lucia di Lammermoor* tonight at 7.30pm with June Anderson and Alfredo Kraus. The rest of the week is devoted to the revised *Rosencavalier* (Mon, Thurs and Feb 7 at 6.30pm). Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

**ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA:** Faust returns to St Martin's Lane at the end of the week (first night Feb 7, 7.30pm) with Ian Judge's gripping production of Gounod's opera retaining much of its original cast. Tonight, Wed and Fri at 7.30pm; Jonathan Miller's new *Tosca*, updated to Nazi-occupied Rome; on Thurs at 7pm another chance to see Tchaikovsky's *Queen of Spades*. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (01-836 3181).

**SCOTTISH OPERA:** On Thurs at 7.15pm another chance to see John Cox's new production of *Der fliegende Holländer*. *Figaro* on Wed and Feb 7 (also 7.15pm) in a revival conducted by Graeme Jenkins. Theatre Royal, Glasgow (041 381 1234).

**OPERA 80:** Tour continues with new productions of *Rigoletto* and *Cinderella*. Tonight, *Rigoletto* at St Austell's Coliseum (072 681 4004) and then during the week at Paignton's Festival Theatre (0803 558641). (*Rigoletto* on Tues, *Cinderella* on Wed) and Poole's Arts Centre (0202 585222). (*Rigoletto* on Thurs and Feb 7; *Cinderella* on Fri). All performances start at 7.30pm.

## ROCK

**ELVIS COSTELLO AND THE CONFEDERATES:** After the residency in London, Costello and his American band go on general release. Tonight, Newcastle City Hall (091 281 2608); Tomorrow, Edinburgh Playhouse (031 557 2590); Tuesday, St David's Hall, Cardiff (0222 371236); Wednesday, Colston Hall, Bristol (0272 291768).

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## Thursdays, Brighton Dome (0273 674367).

**NIK KERSHAW:** With his caged percussionists, fluent guitar style, and considered melodies, Kershaw is a pop star with musical substance. Tonight, Festival Hall, Basildon (0268 23456); Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Town and Country Club, London NW5 (01-267 9334).

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## TEDDY EDWARDS: Tenor saxophonist and bebop pioneer makes a rare foray from his Los Angeles base.

Wed, Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (01-439 8722).

**JAN GARBAREK:** His haunting tone evoking a landscape of tundras and fords, the popular Norwegian saxophonist brings a unique flavour to jazz. His quartet includes the virtuoso bassist Eberhard Weber and the unorthodox guitarist David Torn. Wed, Logan Hall, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1 (01-387 9629); Thurs, Victoria Rooms, Bristol (0272 259191); Fri, Great Hall, Dartington (0803 663073).

## FILMS ON TV

● Woody Allen meets Shakespeare and Chekhov and pays homage to Ingmar Bergman in *A Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy*, his 1982 film which is having its British TV premiere. It is a lyrical, melancholic piece which follows the romantic permutations of three couples spending the weekend at a farmhouse in upstate New York. The cast includes Mia Farrow (above) and Allen himself. Channel 4, tomorrow, 11pm-12.40am.

**NICHOLAS RAY:** The BBC2 season continues today with two double bills. *A Woman's Secret* (1949), starring Melvyn Douglas, is combined with another thriller, *On Dangerous Ground* (1951), with Robert Ryan as an obsessive cop (2-4.40pm); and the extraordinary Western, *Johnny Guitar* (1954), pairs with *Party Girl* (1958), a pungent tale of Chicago gangsters (8.55pm-1.30am).

**THE BEST MAN (1964):** Henry Fonda and Cliff Robertson battling for Presidential nomination in a gripping political drama by Gore Vidal. Channel 4, Thurs, 2.30-4.20pm.

**KISS OF DEATH (1947):** Tense, location-shot thriller of the New York underworld with Victor Mature as a stool pigeon and Richard Widmark making a brilliant screen debut as a sniggering psychopath. Channel 4, Fri, 10.30pm-12.20am.

## TELEVISION

**STATE OF THE ART:** Feminists take centre stage as the modern art series homes on to sexuality. But American artist Eric Fischl says voyeurism is essential. Channel 4, tomorrow, 8.15-9.15pm.

**THE MAN WHO CARED FOR CHILDREN:** First of two Horizon programmes on the psychologist, Dr Bruno Bettelheim, who survived the Nazi death camps and made his name treating disturbed children in Chicago. BBC2, Mon, 8.10-9pm.

**UP LINE:** Quirky comedy-thriller from Howard (Rock Follies) Schuman about three alternative comedians involved in pyramid selling. With Nigel Terry (from *Caravaggio*), Alexi Saye and Hugh Laurie. Channel 4, Wed, 10-11pm.

**SCREECH RRRR CLANG:** *Newsround Extra* celebrates 50 years of *Dandy* and *Beano*. BBC1, Fri, 4.55-5.10pm.

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## TEDDY EDWARDS: Tenor saxophonist and bebop pioneer makes a rare foray from his Los Angeles base.

Wed, Pizza Express, 10 Dean Street, London W1 (01-439 8722).

**JAN GARBAREK:** His haunting tone evoking a landscape of tundras and fords, the popular Norwegian saxophonist brings a unique flavour to jazz. His quartet includes the virtuoso bassist Eberhard Weber and the unorthodox guitarist David Torn. Wed, Logan Hall, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1 (01-387 9629); Thurs, Victoria Rooms, Bristol (0272 259191); Fri, Great Hall, Dartington (0803 663073).

## FILMS ON TV

● Woody Allen meets Shakespeare and Chekhov and pays homage to Ingmar Bergman in *A Midsummer Night's Sex Comedy*, his 1982 film which is having its British TV premiere. It is a lyrical, melancholic piece which follows the romantic permutations of three couples spending the weekend at a farmhouse in upstate New York. The cast includes Mia Farrow (above) and Allen himself. Channel 4, tomorrow, 11pm-12.40am.

**NICHOLAS RAY:** The BBC2 season continues today with two double bills. *A Woman's Secret* (1949), starring Melvyn Douglas, is combined with another thriller, *On Dangerous Ground* (1951), with Robert Ryan as an obsessive cop (2-4.40pm); and the extraordinary Western, *Johnny Guitar*







SPORTING DIARY  
Frances Edmonds  
in Australia

Titfer  
for tat

With the scene now set for the final round of the America's Cup in Fremantle, Bob Hawke, has matched Ronald Reagan's promise of a cowboy hat if the United States wins. Hawke says that if Australia's Kookaburra III wins, he will hand over a Crocodile Dundee style Akubra hat. Wags are suggesting that the defeated Australia IV syndicate manager — the Perth multi-millionaire Alan Bond, who wrestled the "auid mug" after 132 years of American dominance at Newport in 1983 — has added a codicil to the Australia-American wager. If Kookaburra III allows the American skipper, Dennis Conner, and the crew of Stars and Stripes to retrieve the cup after all Bond's herculean efforts, then the Akubra will be delivered attached to the head of Kookaburra skipper Iain Murray.

Fighting talk

The Kiwis' unusual, if not unexpected, decision to join forces with the Australians rather than with their American co-challengers has been greeted enthusiastically by the Kookaburra syndicate director, Ken Court. Court may know plenty about 12 metre yacht racing but his sense of history is a trifle off-course. Hearing of the Kiwis' decision he enthusiastically exclaimed that "when Anzacs get together and put up a fight they usually win". Surely he must have heard of Gallipoli.

Slips

Two Australians are wondering if they had something to do with the unexpected resignation of Jack Bailey, the MCC secretary, on his return from watching the cricket in Australia. At a dinner party in Sydney a couple of weeks ago, two of Bailey's fellow guests were Jane Adams, who deals with syndication rights for News Corporation (Australia), and investment banker Mark Hopkinson. Hopkinson, who asked him if his job was full-time or whether it merely involved selling a few "egg and bacon" pies. Then Hopkinson naively enquired exactly what an MCC secretary did all day, apart from collecting the gate money at Lord's. The two are now genuinely concerned that their questions may have precipitated Bailey's departure.

Word play

Poster-borne graffiti is the art form most commonly on display in Australian sporting stadiums. Apart from such banal exhortations as "good shot" and "wizd", there is no shortage of genuine humour. On the centre court at the Australian Open in Kooyong, Melbourne, during the Czechoslovak, Ivan Lendl, a young woman hoisted aloft a poster reading "Cash Always Beats A Cheque". At the Gabba cricket ground in Brisbane recently a gaudy poster insisted: "Mike Gatting - King Jenny Craig Immediately". Jenny Craig runs a string of successful weight loss centres.

Gut reaction

England's cricketers do not have the monopoly on excess adipose tissue. While Dirk Wellham, the New South Wales batsman, threw himself bodily towards the wicket in an all-out attempt to avoid a run-out during England's breathtaking one-day victory over the Australians at the Sydney cricket ground last week, an ABC commentator was more than apt. "Wellham", he remarked, "skidding on his belly makes it comfortable".

Sluggish

The seventh annual Australasian Worm Championships was celebrated here last week. The race is held on a metre-square board, marked with inner and outer circles. Four competitors at a time are placed inside the inner circle. When the flag drops the first worm to slide across the outer line is the winner. Favourite for the biggest event in the racing calendar of the Victorian town of Trentham was Enders Pride III, who took a week to cover two furlongs.



Barry Fantoni

Alastair Milne's departure from the BBC is a personal tragedy, the more so because he had devoted his working life to broadcasting and the BBC. But the rift between BBC governors and management has been evident for more than two years. The Corporation cannot function effectively while its two ruling bodies are at loggerheads. This internal strife, far more than external political pressures, seems to me the most likely cause of Thursday's drama.

The governors are part time. In the eyes of many professional broadcasters and administrators they are amateurs. Sometimes they intervene when they ought not to; sometimes they fail to intervene when they should. Frictions with the full-time professionals are almost inevitable, but the BBC's governors are an essential part of the "arm's length" relationship between the broadcasters and the politicians and their view has to be respected.

Previous directors-general have had their troubles — among them Sir Hugh Greene, the most distinguished since the war. Most however, have shown the qualities of diplomacy and persuasion to carry the governors with them. Alastair Milne, sadly, was too abrasive and too intolerant towards differing views. Sir Ian Trethowan before him may have been too emollient, but he guided the BBC through awkward debates with Labour and Conservative ministers — and Labour governments have occasionally been as troublesome as any.

The preservation of the arm's

After Milne,  
the need  
for harmony

by Alastair Hetherington

length relationship is crucial to the independence of British Broadcasting. Mrs Thatcher's government has infringed the conventions, both over the *Real Lives* programme and through Norman Tebbit's onslaught over news coverage of the American raids on Libya. It has been urged onwards by sustained sniping from the Conservative back benches. Fortunately for the BBC, Tebbit's evidence was absurdly inadequate and readily rebutted. But the effects of Conservative criticism has been damaging, especially abroad.

Friendly observers in Europe, as I have recently experienced, are no longer convinced that the BBC is truly impartial. They suspect that it is bending under government pressure. They are mistaken, in my view, but they are not easily convinced. The External Services — a vital asset to Britain, in commercial terms no less than cultural — have been tarnished by the Conservative attack.

giving coherence to the BBC's independence, in harmony with the new director general.

Together they face formidable problems. In finance the indexed licence fee will leave BBC revenues far behind the ITV companies. In radio, though the privatization of Radios 1 and 2 may be rejected, the frequencies of one or other may go to Independent National Radio. For the most distant future, the BBC must prepare for subscription television if the Home Office research proves it feasible. So far the BBC has dragged its feet. And over the Home Secretary's demand that the smaller independent producers should have a share in BBC and ITV activities, again there has been a miserable dragging of BBC feet.

Fortunately the governors have at least three excellent candidates for Director-General within the BBC and at least another three outside. Not everyone would want to take on the job, but the talent is there — and so is commitment to withstand political pressure.

For Alastair Milne, too, all is not lost. Let him become a member of the Independent Programme Producers Association. He has a brilliant record in satirical light entertainment. Channel 4 is short of that. He might even sell some programmes to the BBC.

The author, research professor in media studies at Stirling University, was formerly Controller, BBC Scotland.

Peter Brimelow  
Scholarship and  
dollarship

New York  
Although journalists are usually poor correspondents, they always consume their mail avidly. Hostile letters disturb them much more than the senders, even further incensed by the lack of a reply, probably realize. "They confirm my darkest fears about myself," a dejected colleague once said.

No doubt because of some personal perversity, however, I have always found hostile mail ghoulishly satisfying. At the moment I am knee-deep in it, having written a piece for *Forbes* magazine questioning the amount spent in the US on education — the nearest thing in this country to an established religion.

My argument is quite simple, and applies equally to Britain. From an economic point of view, education is an item of goods like any other — baked beans or petrol, for instance. But unlike other goods, the amount spent on education is determined politically, which means in effect by the power of the professional educators' lobby, with its satellite constituencies of parents, politicians and media types.

In America, this has produced a situation in which the educators are constantly demanding more money — when in fact, after adjustment for inflation, the amount spent per primary and secondary school pupil has quadrupled since 1950. This would constitute a catastrophic productivity collapse even if the educational standard achieved by these pupils had remained the same.

But, on all available evidence, overall achievement has deteriorated sharply. Not that there is very much evidence available. Nobody is counting. It seems to be taken for granted that education and spending on education are good, and more is better. To many of my correspondents, any discussion of education in terms of input and output was simply heresy. They were particularly offended by my innocent observation that the US spends about the same proportion of its gross national product on education as on defence.

Readers generally write only when angry. And professional educators in particular, always squeal like stuck pigs when criticized, worse than any other group in my experience except the political activists who have captured the bureaucracies of the major churches. So I was surprised to find that about half my hostile mail was favourable. Quite clearly, the profound popular discontent with levels of taxation and government spending, even under President Reagan's election has not gone away.

Many of my critics offered excuses that were really just amplifications of the problem. Despite the American education system's unpleasant friends, it's worth emphasizing to a British audience that it has real virtues. Its great glory is its flexibility, diversity and energy. But much the same could be said of American society in general. It may be that education systems have less influence than we assume, that they are flawed — and praised — for far too much. Which is no reason for them to waste money.

The author is a senior editor of *Forbes* magazine.

Fleur de Villiers on the significance of Dr Worrall's resignation

Botha's crumbling alliance

Johannesburg  
President Botha's opening salvo in the South African general election campaign, fired in Parliament in Cape Town yesterday, was all but drowned out by an announcement by his ambassador to London.

Dr Denis Worrall, South Africa's ablest defender abroad, confirmed that he was resigning to return to public life in South Africa. With proper reticence he has refused, until he leaves London, to elaborate on his statement that he sees a role for "bridge builders" in South Africa, but that has not stopped intense speculation in South Africa that he intends to campaign against the party he has served since 1974: to stand, not as a member of the liberal opposition Progressive Federal Party but as an independent candidate and a focus for the growing disenchantment of the Nationalist elite with President Botha's policies.

It is difficult to overestimate the shock in Pretoria should the speculation prove correct. Dr Worrall, although English speaking, enjoys a remarkable degree of popularity among South Africans of all shades of opinion, and particularly among Afrikaners who have been impressed by his articulate, sophisticated defence of their country and by his anti-sanctions arguments. These have carried far more weight in the world at large than the "up and at 'em" style of his Minister of Foreign Affairs, Pik Botha.

Worrall's performances on British television, eagerly relayed by the state-controlled South African Broadcasting Corporation, have given him star status in homes across the country and ensure that he will be a formidable candidate if he decides to stand.

If he does indeed defect from the government ranks it will mean that President Botha is at last losing the constituency which provided the bedrock of support for his reform policies — the alliance of "verligte" (enlightened) Afrikaner nationalists and English-speaking voters. In the last year, as harried by hostile world opinion, he has retreated into his shell, slammed the brakes on reform and suspended many civil liberties. Botha has treated that constituency with a contempt it does not deserve.

He has ignored rumblings from the Afrikaners' business world about his government's gross mismanagement of the embattled economy, he has tangled with Afrikaner academics on the suspension of civil liberties, he has threatened Afrikaner students who want to meet the ANC and he



Botha: first round to the opposition

has increasingly alienated an Afrikaner elite which expected more reform than a stage society trapped in a seemingly endless state of emergency.

Indeed, Botha's spokesmen have not bothered to disguise their belief that the support of the English-speaking voters and of Afrikaners of the left (all terms in South Africa being relative) could be taken for granted in the coming election as the government devoted its time and energies to dispatching the threat from the extreme right.

That assumption was dented last week when Wynand Malan, Nationalist MP for Randburg, offended by President Botha's brutal treatment of coloured leader and cabinet colleague Allan Hendrickse — who had incurred his wrath by swimming from a whites-only beach — resigned from the party and announced his intention of standing as an independent. It was a brave, if lonely, stand, but it nevertheless ignited a hope among disenchanted Afrikaners (whose tribal fidelity is such that they cannot quite bring themselves to vote for the English-dominated Progressive Federal Party) that their disaffection could yet find a more adequate expression than an abstention vote or a spoils paper.

If Malan can do it, so the argument goes, why not six or seven independent heavyweight candidates drawn from the ranks of disenchanted Nationalists? At worst they could send a message of protest to Botha; at best they would be returned to Parliament

dians into Parliament.

The task led eventually to a head-on clash with the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Chris Heunis, and some of Worrall's key recommendations were spurned. A surprise posting as ambassador to Australia was widely, if incorrectly, interpreted at the time as a sign that this ambitious and able man had proved too awkward a bed-fellow for some of his Nationalist colleagues.

But his performance in Australia was noted, and appreciated, at home and his appointment to London was little short of inspired. Whitehall could afford to ignore most of his Afrikaner predecessors as relics of an alien culture. In Worrall Pretoria had at last found a man who could address British concerns in terms of British values and do it with a skill and a sophistication rare among South African envoys.

But if his performance was his plaudits in both London and among the broad South African public, there is little doubt that his popularity did not serve his ambitions well among suspicious Nationalist colleagues. Neither, probably, did his industry in trying to fashion a subtle response to the Eminent Persons Group initiative early last year or his swift rebuttal of the government's initial negative response to the proposals for multi-racial government in Natal.

His annoyance over the South African raids on three Commonwealth countries which effectively torpedoed the EPF mission and his distaste for the suppression of press freedom was not overly disguised. A widely expected elevation to the cabinet in last year's reshuffle did not materialize as Botha ignored not only Worrall but other outspoken reformists.

So this man who describes himself as a liberal with a small "l" but who insists that no solution to South Africa's problem is possible if Afrikaner fears are ignored again needs a role for himself in which he can try to marry those two convictions.

Whether or not he decides to go into active politics against the government, his resignation means that the first blood in the election campaign has gone not, as expected, to President Botha or even to his enemies on the extreme right but to the disenchanted Nationalists of the left. For Botha will find it almost impossible to replace his present ambassador to London with anyone who can argue South Africa's case half as effectively.

The Times Newspapers, 1987.

If it even makes it  
to the runway  
it's gotta be noos...

the other. "Well, I was expecting a jet, not something for doing stunt flying. I booked here from Chicago on a major carrier. No one told me that halfway I'd be switching to a flying circus. Let me tell you about it," he said, and without pausing for consent, he told me about it.

There had been the time when a dog, which had been bundled into the baggage compartment, got scared by the noise of the engine and burst out of its confinement at 1,000 feet and plunged earthwards. "Let me tell you, that is true. It happened in Alaska a couple of years ago. It was in the noospaper."

Then there was the passenger who, just before arrival in his home town, developed the suspicion that the pilot had mistaken the street lights for the runway. "He was gonna land on the highway until this passenger tapped him on the shoulder and put him right. It was in the noospaper."

There was the co-pilot who went to check the back door at 4,000 feet only to see it disappear before his eyes. "Some guy grabbed his

"Omigod, I can see the wings wobbling. I think they're gonna break off," he announced as the plane banked north after take-off.

He kept up his commentary of doom for the entire 35 minutes of the flight. I looked at the other six passengers. Fortunately there was no gorgeous blonde, brazen red-head or timid clergyman — none of that cross-section of humanity which was a pre-requisite of all the air crashes I had ever seen at the cinema. The others were just grey businessmen, one looking somewhat greyer as the little aircraft bounced around on Eric's weather.

Few travellers would deny that being in a light aircraft feels more like flying than being in a 737 does. On a good day their low altitude means there are much more impressive views to be enjoyed, especially flying in Arizona and New Mexico as I did the week after. On a bad day there is a much greater sensation of being at the whim of the winds, an impression which is hardly assuaged by those airlines which ask you your weight before boarding so that the fatties can be spread around strategically.

Eric's suffering, when it was all over, was not entirely without purpose. At least his faith in journalism had been vindicated. Sometimes you just have to believe what you read in the noospaper.

Paul Valley

Philip Howard  
Buttering up  
Lady Luck

Every day in every way things get worse and worse. Or so the old bores grumble. But at least in one matter there is an improvement. We are less superstitious than we used to be, aren't we? We no longer tremble at thunder, or make obscene apotropaic gestures to ward off the evil eye. We are still as much folly and sin as we were as drove Juvenal to verse; but there are fewer fortune-tellers, augurs, entrail-interpreters, prophets, haruspices, weather forecasters, public opinion pollsters, and other such charlatans.

We are rational grown-ups who no longer make detours to avoid walking under ladders, or blench to sit down thirteen at table. The feeble-minded may read their horoscopes in the feather-headed blats, but they say they don't really believe the rubbish, and look at it only for a laugh.

Of course, some superstitions are not irrational, but plain common sense. It is indeed very unlucky to put the sugar in before the milk when pouring a cup of tea. My Aunt Cassandra once put the sugar in first, and over the next fifty years all her teeth fell out. And even the most hard-headed rationalists have feet of clay with toes crossed about superstition. Niels Bohr, the Danish nuclear physicist who was one of the fathers of the bomb, and a serious man of science, kept a horseshoe hanging in his country cottage. A friend teased him: "Can it be that you, of all people, believe it will bring you luck?" "Of course not," replied Bohr, "but I understand it brings you luck whether you believe or not."

Some beliefs that look superstitious at first are really hard facts that can be demonstrated empirically. One of these is the Aggravating Transport Law of Inverse Urgency. This states that public transport arrives promptly only when it doesn't matter, but is always late when you really need it. When you have all the time in the world, the Circle Line train pulls up as you step on to the platform, and the 27 bus arrives at the stop simultaneously with you, you have the right change, the driver smiles, the traffic lights are all green, there is no other traffic about, and you get to work an hour before anybody else. Conversely, when you have an important conference with the Big Boss, and are running a bit late anyway, the bus accelerates away just as you get to the stop, and no other comes for half an hour, when three arrive



Chris Worrall

its final gloss, if it can't go wrong, it might. There are numerous variations of the Law, which is said to have been invented by George Nichols in 1949. Nichols was then a project manager working in California for the American firm Northrop, and developed the axiom from a remark made by a colleague, Captain E. Murphy, of the Wright Field-Aircraft Laboratory. The earliest quotations appear to support this aeronautical explanation: *Aviation Mechanics Bulletin* May-June 1955: "If an aircraft part can be installed incorrectly, someone will install it that way."

Murphy's law is merely a scientific formulation of a much earlier universal law about human affairs, the Buttered Side Principle, first set down by James Payn — echoing Tom Hood's parody 67 years earlier — in 1884:

I never had a piece of toast Particularly long and wide But fell upon the sandy floor And always on the buttered side.

The underlying truth of the principle goes back much further; indeed, it has been built into the human condition since Adam and Eve. With Murphy's Law and the Buttered Side Principle ruling the world, there is no room for superstition.





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## ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

In deciding to resign his post as Ambassador to the Court of St James and to return to a political career in South Africa, Mr Denis Worrall has achieved a remarkable surprise. It has even distracted attention from President Botha's announcement that May 6 will be the date of South Africa's election upon which, indeed, it may yet exercise some influence. But does the Ambassador's announcement represent the failure of his mission?

Mr Worrall had an unenviable and impossible task in London. To attempt to persuade the British public of the virtues of South African policy would be a difficult task at any time. It has proved an almost humiliating one in a year in which the Botha government has all but abandoned the reforms programme, imposed two states of emergency and press censorship of unusual severity, rejected the proposals of the Natal "indaba" for the establishment of a multi-party democracy in Natal, and unsuccessfully fought the imposition of economic sanctions.

That Mr Worrall should be called upon to defend this record was a harsh irony. He was, as Fleur de Villiers points out on the opposite page, one of the architects of the Botha government's reform programme — though one who urged more rapid and thorough change than the government or the electorate was willing to accept. That programme, however, always had

an important international dimension. It offered no overnight revolution but a gradualist, rolling progress in which each reform was designed in part to gain a period of grace for South Africa during which the next reform might be introduced. Indeed, Western support (or at least tolerance) was essential if reformist policies and Ministers were to survive the black-unrest and conservative white backlash which reform was expected to provoke.

A persuasive advocate, a brilliant debater, a knowledgeable student of international affairs, Mr Worrall was ideally suited to "sell" the reform programme to British and international opinion. By the time he arrived in London, however, the political appetite throughout the West was for a much more rapid transition to black majority rule than Pretoria could conceivably grant. Anything short of that was dismissed as "cosmetic" or trivial, and the campaign for economic sanctions made great advances. With all his brilliance, Mr Worrall could do little to deflect this tide — even on the one issue, economic sanctions, on which he personally sympathised with his government's position.

That altered the political calculations in Pretoria which, first, slowed down the reform programme, then embarked on harsh repression of black unrest in the townships, conducted military raids on suspected ANC guerrilla bases in neighbouring countries and —

in what was apparently the last straw for the London Ambassador — rejected the Natal Indaba proposals out of hand. His position increasingly untenable, Mr Worrall has returned home to an interesting political future.

Until now, as an English-speaking Nationalist, he has symbolised the theory that liberal English-speakers might join with *verligte* Afrikaners in a reform-minded Nationalist Party to push through fundamental political change over the opposition of conservatives in both communities. That alliance has now shattered — with President Botha and his supporters planning to fight an election on a programme of defying the world, and the reformists either retreating into political inactivity or looking at third-party options.

Mr Worrall is thought to be considering running as an independent candidate in the Cape. South Africa's next Parliament is almost certain to have a Nationalist majority, but since a number of parties are running to the left and right of Mr Botha, its exact composition cannot be forecast. Mr Worrall might well emerge to lead a new coalition of reformist Nationalists, disaffected by the government's present immobilism, and members of the Progressive Federal Party. If so, he will have to solve the problem of how to win Western support for reforms which may be faster than Mr Botha's but which will still not offer instant democracy.

## A TESTING FUTURE

The news that the Government is considering introducing national tests to be taken by all children in basic subjects at various stages of their primary and secondary schooling is welcome. The step follows logically on earlier announcements by the Education Secretary, Mr Kenneth Baker, about his plans to introduce a national core curriculum, accompanied by attainment targets, or benchmarks. After all, what is the point of setting national standards if there is no way of measuring whether or not they are being achieved?

It has to be said, however, that all that is new about the idea is its national dimension for it was pioneered three years ago by the London borough of Croydon. The authority has imposed a core curriculum on all its schools and it tests children's numeracy and literacy at the ages of 7, 9 and 11. A more general aptitude test is administered at 14. The advantages are manifold and obvious: Croydon can tell at a glance how schools with comparable intakes are performing; parents know in considerable detail what their children are expected to learn and whether they are doing so; and (not least) teachers are left in no doubt about what is expected of them.

In other words, Croydon is doing what every efficient organisation must. It sets itself objectives and then measures whether or not they are being achieved. It is thus in a position to judge the quality of the service it is providing and what should be done to improve it.

Opposition to the idea, which quickly evaporated in Croydon, usually stems from fears that a dull and narrow uniformity will be imposed on schools and that teachers' enterprise and initiative will

be stifled. The reality is that Croydon is now able to insist on the uniform delivery of a broad and challenging curriculum whether the teachers are gifted or not, and providing the goods are delivered, the authority gives positive encouragement to a diversity of teaching styles and methods. Indeed, a core curriculum and standardized tests provide exactly the framework within which experimentation can safely flourish.

So if it works in Croydon, why not in Britain? The fact is that ever since the 1944 Education Act unaccountably neglected to say anything about what children should be taught, apart from religious education, a kind of anarchy has blossomed in our schools resulting not only in unparallelable inequalities (which bear hardest on the less able) but also in a steady decline in standards by comparison with what our competitors are achieving. It has to stop.

The deafening silence from the ranks of the Labour Party and the Alliance suggests that there is at least wide political agreement on the need for a core curriculum. Even the Inner London Education Authority is planning to impose one. Nonetheless, the educational establishment is already beginning to gag, and its outrage will grow with the prospect of national tests. Some of its objections need to be taken seriously, in particular the danger of spreading despondency and discouragement among children who may be labelled failures time and again.

There are two answers to that. The first is that once realistic standards are set and insisted upon, fewer children will fail. The second is that parents must be educated to understand what they can realistically expect of their

children and reassured — as not enough are now — that everything possible is being done to ensure that they achieve it. Standardised tests not only show how a child is performing in relation to his or her peers, which every parent wants to know, they also reveal how pupils are progressing in relation to their own abilities, which every parent has a right to know.

Teachers tend to claim that it all means a return to the fabled and hated Victorian system of "payment by results" under which for 30 years elementary schools were penalised by the withdrawal of government grant if too many of their pupils failed tests in the three Rs. Of course, some teachers have reason to fear being found out. Croydon's tests can identify which classes in which subjects are producing unexpectedly poor results, at which point the remedy is either an urgent dose of in-service training or something more drastic. And what possible objection can there be to that, unless we really have come to believe that schools are run principally for the benefit of those who teach in them?

But the most influential objection to the scheme will come from local education authorities, of all political colours, who fear a real erosion of their powers. But they are mistaken. In the same way as schools and teachers in Croydon are encouraged to develop their own ways of arriving at a common goal so, once we have a national curriculum and standardised tests to underpin it, local authorities will be free to devise the best ways of delivering a high quality education to the greatest possible number of pupils. And that, surely, must be the national objective.

## FOURTH LEADER

The other day, when the Swiss Air Force was on manoeuvres, there was a multiple aerial accident; two jets collided, and a helicopter was brought down in the ensuing melee. By good fortune, no member of the crew of any of the three aircraft was hurt. But just as we were rejoicing at their providential escape from tragedy, we noticed another item in the story. In the confusion, "a drugged horse fell 300 feet to its death".

Here we must insist on an urgent disclaimer. We do not make the news, we merely report it. What is more, this story came from Reuters, whose representatives are models of sobriety, particularly in Switzerland. We have all got to face the fact that a visit to that country now entails, in addition to the familiar dangers — avalanches and mudslides — the possibility that at any moment a drugged horse may fall on us from a great height.

Very well, you say, a stout umbrella (or parasol in the summer) should keep the worst off. We wouldn't bank on it; a horse falling from 300 feet up would be accelerating at a rate of 32 feet per second squared, and (if we have applied the famous formula correctly) would therefore attain an impact velocity of approximately 196 mph.

Some thump. But we are more interested in the cause than the effect. It is very unlikely indeed that the Swiss are about to take over the world; apart from anything else, their strict rules on neutrality would preclude it. But if not, how are we to explain why they have now started filling their aeroplanes with horses and pelting the passers-by with them?

Horses for courses. We scout the theory that the beast was a stowaway. We reject the

thought that the Swiss are checking up on Newton. We rule out the idea that, tired of hearing people say it's raining cats and dogs, they are trying to freshen the metaphor. No one would try to popularise aerial polo. And we simply do not believe that the whole thing was an advertisement for Pegasus Holidays.

Give up? You'll kick yourselves when you know. It was all a stunt organised by the Swiss chapter of the Wordsworth Society. Peter Bell, with 227 stanzas, is one of their hero's longest poems; we have to add that it is also one of his worst. But it begins "There's something in a flying horse". Repeatedly frustrated by their unsuccessful attempts to tease any coherent meaning out of the work, the Society determined to see if there was anything in a flying horse, and the plan went wrong. A pity, they were, after all, only trying to make William tell.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Safe way ahead in nuclear energy

From the Chairman of Rolls-Royce plc:  
Sir, Energy is an essential requirement of modern society and traditional fossil fuel sources are limited to a few decades. The renewable sources have proved difficult, expensive and environmentally intrusive and offer no solution to the world's energy problems when fossil fuel supplies become scarce and expensive.

Nuclear fusion is still tantalisingly promising, but offers no substantial substitution possibility for 100 years or more. In the circumstances we have to fall back upon nuclear fission. The record of the nuclear industry over the past 30 years has been a good one and where accidents have occurred they have resulted from a tendency of man to overrate his ability to design and operate acceptably safe systems.

Since nuclear fission is a potentially hazardous process safety assumes paramount importance and it behoves us to look not only for the most carefully engineered safety devices, but also for a system where the physical laws demand the least possible ingenuity on the part of designers and operators.

We are fortunate in this country in having developed, at great cost and effort, gas-cooled reactor systems whose physical processes are essentially more forgiving than those of water reactors. We therefore have a choice open to no other nation in the world and it would be a tragedy if, as proposed by the Central Electricity Generating Board, we abandoned this technology for the pressurised water reactor.

The PWR was designed for use in nuclear submarines, where the power/weight ratio is of maximum importance and takes priority over other factors. Such consideration should not dominate a civil nuclear power programme and it is an unhappy accident that, for economic reasons, the PWR has been developed for civil use.

For this reason, while continuing to be a strong supporter of nuclear power in the UK energy system, I fervently hope that Government and the CEBG will reconsider their stance of the past

few years and continue the AGR system rather than opting for the PWR.

If they do not, I believe that their responsibility will be very great, and it is probable that posterity will judge them harshly. Yours faithfully,  
FRANCIS TOMBS, Chairman,  
Rolls-Royce plc,  
65 Buckingham Gate, SW1,  
January 28.

From Mr M. H. Glover:  
Sir, In the balanced appraisal by Nigel Evans (feature, January 27) about the Layfield report on the Sizewell inquiry there is no reference to the possibility, or by now perhaps probability, of nuclear fusion replacing nuclear fission during the next 50 years as a means of generating electricity without using fossil fuels.

Given the fact that fusion energy will be "clean" and free of the hazards posed by containing radioactive waste, surely responsibility to future generations should cause us to pause before proliferating additional fission reactors, more especially having regard to the transformation of the coal industry into a productive and high-technology enterprise.

Yours truly,  
MYLES GLOVER,  
Buckhall Farm,  
Bull Lane,  
Bethersden, Nr Ashford, Kent.

From Mr Andrew Warren:  
Sir, During his distinguished career Sir Frank Layfield has undertaken three major public inquiries for the Government. The two previous inquiries dealt with the reform of local government finance and with the Greater London Development Plan ringways scheme.

On both previous occasions Sir Frank's recommendations have been accepted by the government of the day, which then proceeded not to implement them.

Surely this Government will not wish to break with precedent over Sizewell B?  
Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW WARREN,  
Kingston,  
Mill Lane,  
Felsted, Essex.

## Spy in the sky

From Dr Jeremy Leggett:  
Sir, The Zircos satellite scheme should not be criticised on strategic grounds. It will be our first home-grown surveillance facility capable of monitoring the interior of the Soviet Union from space. As such, it will reduce our hitherto complete reliance on Pentagon-derived intelligence.

Many proponents of arms-control have long argued that we rely too heavily on our allies for information where threat-assessment and treaty-compliance evaluation are concerned and all the indications are that this is the kind of role the Zircos satellite will play.

For currently topical issues such as the crop of allegations over Soviet infringements of the Salt 2 treaty, we in Britain have no way of judging for ourselves. Most of the issues involve classified data from American photo-reconnaissance satellites.

## Independent schools

From the Headmaster of Reed's School, Cobham:  
Sir, I write in support of the views expressed in the letter from the Headmaster of The King's School, Chester (January 20), concerning the Labour Party's plans to abolish the assisted places scheme and the charitable status of independent schools.

Although my school is not on the assisted places scheme, it does have, as do many other independent schools, a charitable foundation which gives boarding provision to children in need. We support over 100 boarders at the cost of £250,000 a year. These boys are on foundation bursaries because one parent has died or

Sadly, where there is information available on the public record, such as that pertaining to the allegations over Soviet violation of the threshold test ban treaty, the Pentagon record of accuracy does not bear too close inspection.

The new British signals intelligence satellite will give us a much needed degree of independence in threat-assessment. It will be able to monitor radio and telephone communications in a way the Soviets will not be able to predict. As such, it will add another distinctive for hawksish Kremlin strategists who might be disposed to contemplate clandestine activities under future arms-control treaties. If, that is, there are to be any.

Sincerely,  
J. K. LEGGETT,  
National Co-ordinator  
Verification Technology  
Information Centre,  
33 Southampton Street, WC2.

## Opera finances

From the Chairman of the Royal Opera House:  
Sir, A very misleading picture of the Royal Opera House's finances has been conveyed in the Press in recent weeks, and I would like to put the record straight:  
1. The Royal Opera House does not face a £2m deficit for the current year, on the contrary, we are likely to break even, an achievement of which we are proud.

2. We do not face debts, mounting or otherwise.  
3. We do not intend project a sizeable deficit for the coming financial year, 1987/88: this is in line, proportionately, with deficits faced by most performing arts organisations; and we are working on it.  
4. At the request of the Arts Council, we are preparing a three-year rolling plan, which will certainly include some sacrifices. I believe that no decision to give us only a "standstill grant" for 1987/88 has been made.

The problems we are grappling with are not peculiar to the Royal Opera House. They are faced by arts organisations, large and small, up and down the country. The reasons are well understood.  
Yours faithfully,  
CLAUS MOSER, Chairman,  
Royal Opera House,  
As from New Court,  
St Swinith's Lane, EC4.

## Multiplying magpies

From the Reverend W. E. Quinney:  
Sir, Mr Bromley (January 26) is correct. There is a plague of magpies and carrion crows throughout England. Furthermore he must be correct in attributing, at least, part of the decline of small songbirds etc in his garden to these destructive pests.

However, he may find some consolation knowing that on the gibbet in my garden there hang the remains of 23 female magpies and 21 female carrion crows, all of which were clapped off their nests whilst incubating eggs and shot during April and May last year. Surprisingly my friends and myself are frequently arraigned for undertaking this valuable and arduous task in the interests of conservation.  
I write as a covenanting mem-

## Boat Race crew in hot water

From Professor Alastair Cameron:  
Sir, I am sure many of us who rowed in the Boat Race will think it is time to review the qualifications required for a seat in the boat. For several years now it has (sadly) been possible to predict its outcome merely by looking at the age of the crews and the number of internationals recruited as mercenaries.

Any change in the rules is bound to cause unfairness somewhere, but as a start may I suggest only those are eligible who are (i) undertaking full three-year courses, or (ii) doing a one year's study required to complete an undergraduate course, e.g. teacher training.

As a relief from these difficult matters may I commend the University Lightweights who, for the last 13 years, have raced truly undergraduate crews against each other. I make no apology for being entirely biased in hoping that many people will come and watch the race at Henley on March 22 at 3.30, when Cambridge, which has won the last nine, aims at making it 10.

Yours faithfully,  
ALASTAIR CAMERON (Senior Treasurer, Cambridge University Lightweight Rowing Club),  
39 Maids Causeway, Cambridge.

From the Rev Charles A. Roach:  
Sir, I have maintained for years that the Boat Race would be more genuine — and solve Oxford's present problems — if it were limited to undergraduates and thereby exclude those who go to a university to row and are in effect professionals compared with undergraduates.  
I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
CHARLES A. ROACH,  
Trehoward,  
Green Lane West,  
Marazion, Cornwall,  
January 28.

## No hedge against snow

From Bombardier Nicholas T. Moore:  
Sir, Both Mrs Glyn (January 21) and Mr Lang (January 24) are on the right lines as regards the prevention of snow drifting across roads. Mr Lang's idea of a hedge planted some 50 to 100 yards to the windward of the road is, as he rightly points out, unlikely to be adopted by farmers.

However, here in West Germany (a country unaffected by the Enclosure Acts) a simple, inexpensive method is used to protect the major roads, in particular the autobahns, from incursions of blown snow.

A one-metre-high portable fence made up of fixed lengths of lattice construction (of wood or plastic) is set up approximately 20 or 30 metres from the road along stretches that are known to be vulnerable to drifting. At this time of the year the fields are not affected by such an operation, normally carried out by the equivalent of the local council at no cost to the farmers concerned.

Perhaps it is time council authorities in places such as Sheppey looked to such a scheme for next year, instead of spending vast sums on new snow-clearing machinery. The same principle could be applied by British Rail to stretches of railway lines that have been blocked this year.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS T. MOORE,  
Royal Artillery Gunnery Training Establishment,  
Dortmund,  
British Forces Post Office 20,  
January 26.

## Prayer Book use

From the Reverend Stephen Trotter:  
Sir, If Dr Homan (January 22) wishes to know whether the Book of Common Prayer is being used regularly in the theological colleges of the Church of England he would do well to ask one or two theological students, or some of those who have been recently ordained.

He would discover a very wide consensus of opinion that the BCP is no longer satisfactory either doctrinally or liturgically and no longer a fit means of communication for the radical simplicity of the Christian faith.

What is more, he might well find a deep degree of resentment at the notion that theological students are at college, not to be trained for ministry, but to receive indoctrination, lacking minds and opinions of their own. There would be very firm resistance to any attempt to force a return to the liturgy of the past!

Yours faithfully,  
STEPHEN TROTTER,  
14 Southgate,  
Hessle, North Humberside,  
January 22.

From Mr J. G. Cooper:  
Sir, In your television column in today's issue (January 26) you refer to John Wayne's one-line part in the *Greatest Story Ever Told*, which enabled the studio to publicise the film on billboards as being, in large letters, "with John Wayne".

You might perhaps have mentioned the alleged difficulty which the director encountered when trying to obtain the right degree of reverence from his actor. After several retakes he is said to have exclaimed, "Say it with awe, John". On the next take the famous star is reported to have declared: "Aw, surely this was the son of Gawd".

Yours faithfully,  
J. G. COOPER,  
12 Dunkeld Road,  
Talbot Woods,  
Bournemouth, Dorset,  
January 26.

## ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 31 1905

Although war news claimed the greater part of the paper's four pages early in the 19th century, space could always be found for peaceful pursuits. The second short piece reveals that recycling is not a modern expedient. Agricultural reports are still with us.

## AGRICULTURAL REPORT

The sharp frosts through the chief parts of the month, have not proved ungenial to the principal operations in Agriculture. The young Wheats have, in most districts, been benefited by them, particularly those on tender, free-growing soils, where, in many parts, from the mild, open weather, the wire-worm and slug had materially injured the plants. In the fens of Lincoln, and the low parts on the Essex coast, the growing of corn has been chilled by the continued rains; and their fallowed lands are left in so wet a state, that their Beans and Pease will, of necessity, be got in later this season than has been known for many years past. The last year's crop of Wheat is found so far diminished as to have occasioned a considerable rise within these few days. The young Clovers hitherto have generally stood the winter well; and the feed of Turnips and Cole-seed, notwithstanding the long severity of the weather, continues, in most Counties, sound and abundant. The Ryes have also a thrifty appearance; but the Winter Tares in the Home District do not promise so kindly. The Potatoes continue remarkably sound, and will therefore prove a more productive crop than was generally imagined. — Smithfield has taken a start the two last markets for all articles; but particularly prime Beef; choice House Lamb, and Veal are rather scarce; but Pig Pork comes up in plenty. Lean Suet of most kinds has experienced a proportionate advance. — The Hop Trade is stationary in price; but the Wool Markets are brisk; and both long and short fleeces have fetched more money since last month's Report.

In this scribbling age, when every cottage is supplied with materials rarely to be found in former times on the table of the *Prætor* or *Abbot*, it is of some consequence to acquire a little more learning on the subject of the means of extracting ink, than is to be found in the common recipe. This pigment may be drawn from linen, from paper, and from wood, by the application of almost every species of acid, but it is fit to distinguish those for ordinary use, which occasion the smallest injury to the substance to which they are applied. The muriatic acid is one of these, and it may be conveniently reduced by a quantity of water, equal to five or six times its own weight. The substance to be cleansed, may be washed in it for one or two minutes, and the operation may be repeated as often as shall appear necessary. But less risk will be occasioned by the employment of the vegetable acids, and they will be found equally efficacious. A solution of the oxalic, citric, or tartarous acid, may be applied without the smallest danger upon the most exquisitely delicate production of art; but although common ink will be completely expelled, the ingredients of printer's ink, unfortunately will defy the penetrating effect of these materials. If this difficulty were removed, and a test were discovered capable of extracting the latter, mountains of paper would be restored, which would render inactive the wheels of our rag manufactories during the present century.

## One in the EYE

From Sir Peter Harrop:  
Sir, I have news for David Nicholson-Lord, whose article (January 29) describes European Year of the Environment as "less than a month old and already looking long in the tooth".

In fact, we have not yet cut our teeth. EYE begins on the first day of spring — March 21 — and runs for 12 months. Already there is lively interest and we are putting together a big and expanding programme. The aim is to raise awareness and stimulate action.

EYE will focus on nature conservation, pollution control and the improvement of the urban environment, including ideas for greening cities.  
Yours faithfully,  
PETER HARROP,  
UK Chairman,  
European Year of the Environment,  
Room 326,  
20 Albert Embankment, SE1,  
January 29.

## Literal translation

From Mr J. G. Cooper:  
Sir, In your television column in today's issue (January 26) you refer to John Wayne's one-line part in the *Greatest Story Ever Told*, which enabled the studio to publicise the film on billboards as being, in large letters, "with John Wayne".

You might perhaps have mentioned the alleged difficulty which the director encountered when trying to obtain the right degree of reverence from his actor. After several retakes he is said to have exclaimed, "Say it with awe, John". On the next take the famous star is reported to have declared: "Aw, surely this was the son of Gawd".  
Yours faithfully,  
J. G. COOPER,  
12 Dunkeld Road,  
Talbot Woods,  
Bournemouth, Dorset,  
January 26.

WPH 101550



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# GKN prospects split brokers and leave dealers confused

As a result, Mr Barker has upgraded his estimate for the

The FT index of top 30 shares managed to close at its best levels of the day 14.0 up

BOG	2,000	Millstream
Bocals	7,100	Imp Chess to
BPB Ltd	1,200	Imp Court Gas
Br Aerospace	1,600	Jaguar
Br Gas	82,000	Leedsdale
Br Petroleum	2,500	Land Secur
Br Telecom	Arctic	Liquid & Gas
Brtool	1,200	Lloyds
Burston	8,300	Lushon
Cable & Wireless	2,400	Maria & Sp
Cashew Sheep	3,000	Midland
Casa Virella	1,900	Nat West
Can Union	2,000	P & O Div
Casa Goldfields	479	Pearson
Chookon Gap	322	Pinkington Br
Courtside	1,200	Plessey

Dee Corp	2,700	Prudential
Dixons Op	3,900	Prudential
Flores	405	Prudential



**National Westminster Bank**

The Commonwealth index

## Maize surplus

## THE MAN

## Tunnellers have to dig deep for public support

that in the early stages Eurotunnel had few funds with which to fight; but the real reason was lack of committed

**S**ince October, when £206 million of equity was raised (after embarrassing delays) the consortium has

are no longer the main force and the new executive team is an impressive line-up

**LEADERS OF THE TOP JAPANESE  
NOW INVITE YOU**

First it believes it will convince the public of the tunnel's value and convenience to them as cross-Channel travellers; of the tunnel's economic benefits to Britain, both in terms of employment and trade; and of the weakness of arguments — invading

Secondly, it will look to the Government, assuming it is still Conservative, to throw its public weight behind the tunnel, which after all was blessed by Mrs Thatcher and is widely regarded as a government project. The Govern-

the £750 million of equity has been raised — a task, incidentally, that will

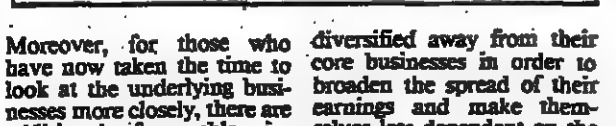
**IN TRUST OF 1986**  
**TO**

Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000	Company	Volume '000
Allied-Lysdex	8,700	Gen Accord	878	Rank Hovis	3,000
Amstar	10,000	GBC	6,800	Rankin Coleman	8,000
Amstar Chemical	7,700	GenCorp	1,000	Reckitt	2,000
Asst Air Foods	1,900	Grainade	5,900	Read Int	1,000
BEI	2,400	Grand Mail	12,000	Realtors	335
BTR	3,000	Griffis A	138	RITZ	480
BAT	5,000	GTE	1,100	Roverco	1,000
Beverage	1,800	GUN	5,000	Royal Ind	1,100
Beverage	290	Guthrie	9,500	Saschi	3,000
Bioscience	3,800	Harsco	15,000	Schmiedly (L)	370
Borg-Warner	1,000	Haworth	700	Shaw-Walsh	1,000
BOS	2,100	Hercules	3,700	Sears	5,100
Buck	7,000	Imp Chem Ind	4,000	Sealed Air	1,600
Burg Ind	1,200	Imp Coal Gas	1,000	Sealed Air	2,800
Bur Aerospace	1,000	Int'l	750	Sealed Air	2,800
Bur	82,000	Ludlow	841	SEI	3,000
Bur Petroleum	3,500	Lund Securities	971	Sei Grant	172
Bur	7,000	Lysol	2,100	Sei Grant	172
Artco	1,200	Lysol	2,100	Sei Grant	172
Bur	2,900	Lysol	2,100	Sei Grant	172
Calumet & Wisconsin	3,400	Martins & Spencer	2,000	Sei Grant	172
Chemical	1,000	Martins & Spencer	2,000	Sei Grant	172
Cross Mining	3,500	Mat'l West	2,000	Sei Grant	172
Com Union	1,900	P & O Direct	884	Sei Grant	172
Consolidated	478	Peapack	277	Sei Grant	172
Coolidge	322	Princeton Bros	871	Sei Grant	172
Courtside	120	Princey	3,200	Sei Grant	172
De Corp	3,700	Prudential	1,500	Sei Grant	172
De Corp	3,700	Prudential	1,500	Sei Grant	172
Diamond	4,000	Rank Org	1,800	Sei Grant	172

## Good time for investors to tune into the television companies

These factors have helped to remove many of the prejudices which prevented

ever, and could experience a slowing in the rate of growth in advertising revenues, particularly if they have already found it difficult to sell



ever, and could experience a slowing in the rate of growth in advertising revenues, particularly if they have already found it difficult to sell

wen Maddox, television companies specialists at the stockbroker Kleinwort Grieveson, were strong backers of the sector in 1986. Although their underpin-

Although it is looking a bit rocky at the moment and may soon embark on a short period of consolidation, looking longer-term, it should not be disregarded as a

trust value which is deducted from the income. The income distribution will be made annually on 1st May to unitholders registered on 1st March. Trustee: Royal Exchange Managers; County Unit Trust Manager's Office: Garrard House, 31 Gresham Street, EC2V 7TH. Registration Number: 00723

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It is not available to residents of E.R.

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**The NatWest Investment Bank Group**  
 Tel: 011 44 20 7544 0100 (not available to residents of Eire)



**E**: **e** divided; **Cum** divided; **G** Gum  
stock epes; **E** stock stop; **In** Cum  
any two or more above; **A** All all  
two or more above; **T** Tuesday  
**(9)** Wednesday; **(4)** Thursday; **(5)** Friday  
**(20)** 25th of month; **(21)** 2nd Thursday  
of month; **(22)** 1st and 3rd Wednesday  
of month; **(23)** 1st and 3rd Thursday  
of month; **(25)** 1st and 3rd  
Thursday of month; **(26)** 4th Tuesday  
of month; **(27)** last Wednesday of month; **(28)**  
last day of month; **(29)** 1st day of  
month; **(30)** 18th of month; **(31)** 1st  
working day of month; **(32)** 20th of month;  
**(33)** 1st day of February, May, August,  
November; **(34)** Last working day  
of month; **(35)** 1st day of January of  
month; **(37)** 21st of month; **(38)** 3rd  
Wednesday of month; **(39)** 1st  
Wednesday of month; **(40)** Value  
of money; **(41)** Last day of month;  
Exchange account; **(42)** Last day of  
month; **(43)** 2nd and 4th Wednesday of  
month; **(44)** Quarterly; **(45)** 8th of month;

May	1640-855		Tone	kids		Apr	Unq.	95.00
Jun	1711-823					Jul	Aug	94.00
Sep	1875-870		<b>SILVER SMALL</b>			Unq.	Unq.	94.00
Nov	1770-750		Three Months	362.50-365.50		Unq.	Unq.	94.00
Dec	1760-710		Three Months	373.00-376.00		\$4.00	Oct	Vac 0
Vol:	4057		Time	Jan	NB	High/Low	Pig West nat	
			Tone	January	kids			
<b>ALUMINUM</b>								
BOYBEAN	122.0-29.3		Three Months	701.00-702.00		<b>Live Cattle Contract p. per kilo</b>		
Apr	128.0-27.7		Three Months	690.00-90.50		Month	Open	Close
May	124.0-20.0		Time	Feb	1600	.....	95.00	
Jun	119.0-15.0		Time	Mar	Finner	.....	97.50	
Oct	118.5-10.0					.....	100.00	
Dec	121.0-0.5		<b>NICKEL</b>					Vac 0
Vol:	424-22.0		Cash	2380-2850		<b>LONDON GRAIN FUTURES £ per tonne</b>		
Time	128		Three Months	2405-2410		Month	Wheat	Barley
			Time	Jan	NB	Mar	Cocoa	Cocoa
			Tone	Finner	Bt Quiet	May	118.30	113.25
<b>MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION</b>								
<b>Official Tender Report</b>								
<b>Priced in £ per metric tonne</b>								
<b>Silver to premier per lb. net weight</b>								
<b>Rossett Ward &amp; Co., Ltd., report</b>								
<b>HOPPER GRADE A</b>								
Cash	588.00-590.00		Gilt Cows, 92.50p per kg liv	(-0.64)		Nov	102.90	100.40
Time	595.00-600.00		Gilt Stag 172.00p per kg*	(+12.50)		Dec	100.70	108.15
Time	590.00		Gilt Pigs 71.00p per kg liv	(-0.43)		Jan	105.70	105.90
Time	..... Finner					Vol	West	732
<b>STANDARD CATTOMES</b>								
Cash	582.00-586.00		England and Wales:			Barley	.....	50
Time	584.00-590.00		Cattle nos. down 27.4 %, av.			<b>LONDON POTATO FUTURES £ per tonne</b>		
Time	580.00		price, 82.91p (-0.44)		Month	Open	Close	
Time	..... Finner		Sheep nos. down 26.7 %, av.		Feb	111.90	110.10	
			price, 172.50p (-12.40)		Apr	187.00	189.80	
<b>LEAD</b>			Gilt nos. up 2.9 %, av.		May	86.80	86.80	
Cash	293.00-293.50		price, 95.00p (-0.63)					Vol: 856
Time	298.00-300.00		Scottish:					
Time	..... Steader		Cattle nos. up 13.6 %, ave.					
			price, 90.90p (-1.49)					
<b>IRON HORN GRADE</b>			Sheep nos. down 4.1 %, av.					
Cash	476.00-477.00		price, 170.50p (-14.72)		Apr 87	High/Low	Close	
Time	474.00-475.00		Pig nos. n/a, % av.		Jul 87	96.10-655.0	653.0	
Time	470.00		price, n/a		Oct 87	705.0-750.0	750.0	
Time	..... Steader		price, n/a		Jul 87	765.0-785.0	774.0	
<b>SILVER LAUNCH</b>			<b>LONDON MEAT FUTURES</b>					
Cash	363.50-365.50		Vol: 242 lots	Open	Close	Open mts: 2498		
Time	373.00-375.00		Vol: Pig Contact p. per kilo	.....	.....	Spot market comments:		
Time	.....		Month	Open	Close	865.0-1000.0		
			Feb	Unq.	95.00			







## Another share of the risks

**This week saw the start of the Third Market on the Stock Exchange. It trades shares of mainly young companies not yet eligible for a full listing on the Stock Exchange or even on the Unlisted Securities Market. JANE ALEXANDER takes up the story**

The Third Market hopes, indeed needs, to attract private investors' money as the size of bargains is rather small for institutional investors — which have, in any case, generally invested in venture capital in a more direct way.

But private investors who are averse to risks should stay clear of it. There is a world of difference between staggering recent privatization issues and dabbling in the Third Market.

The Third Market is for risk capital — that is, the money you can lose without losing your shirt and preferably even your sleep.

To get a full listing on the Stock Exchange a company must be able to provide five years' audited accounts. For the USM this is reduced to three and for the Third Market it is only one — and even this can be waived if a "greenfield

concern" can show a plan with good profit potential.

The Stock Exchange itself gives a warning: "There will be failures as well as successes among companies whose securities are traded. Investments will typically be high-risk and investors must recognize this and accept its consequences."

When the Financial Services Act comes fully into force later this year broker-dealers will be required to show that any investment in a Third Market stock is a suitable investment for the client for whom it is purchased — the “know your customer” rule.

Unlike the other two markets the Stock Exchange's quotations department does not vet Third Market companies before flotation. The sponsor of the issue, which must be a Stock Exchange member, takes responsibility for this. It has been decided, however, that the Stock Exchange council must then grant its formal approval immediately before flotation.

The accompanying table shows the eight companies whose securities were traded on the market from the first day (last Monday), their sponsors and the market-makers.

Interest from private investors was apparently encouraging. David Michaels, chair-

man of Guidehouse Securities, described interest as "not amazing but not negligible". The highest rise on Day One was recorded by Abelscot, which went up 25p to 200p.

Private investors have previously had the chance to trade shares in greenfield companies on what is known as

panies on what is known as



**David Michaels: "encouraging"**  
the over-the-counter (OTC) market. This is a telephone market with about 20 securities dealers (although perhaps only one offering a particular

only that offering a petulant stock), which has had a few successes with companies later moving on to the USM, as well as several failures and some scandal.

Investors in the Third Market, however, are a more privileged group. There is a proper regulatory framework

and the full protection of the Stock Exchange compensation fund, which pays up should a member firm fail.

Besides the OTC market, individual investors have shown themselves prepared to back new ventures with the Business Expansion Scheme. Shares of BES companies can be traded on the Third Mar-

ket, unlike the other two firms, but liquidity in these is likely to be low in the short term as selling the shares before the five years qualifying period is up loses the investor the tax relief.

Indeed, marketability of Third Market shares is perceived as a problem, with only about two market makers in every stock and no minimum percentage of equity required to be in public hands. Mr. Michaels wants to "dispel this misunderstanding". He argues: "A market-maker is purely a conduit. It doesn't really matter whether there is one or 100."

It is the investors, he argues, who have to be educated to provide the liquidity. But investors on the OTC market have been faced with buying-selling spreads of 20 to 25 percent.

Interest in the Third Market is reported to be high, with the Stock Exchange providing an impressive list of members expressing interest in sponsoring companies for entry. About 100 or more companies' shares could be trading on the Third Market by the end of the year.

Joining the Third Market is not going to be cheap for these companies, however, despite the less onerous requirements. Mr. Michaels leads the Third Market Advisory Group which is trying to unify standards on the accounting and legal side, and therefore bring down costs. It also hopes to unify the approach to market-making and expects to produce guidelines within six months.

Investors who are tempted to trade a company's shares on this high-risk market need only go to a stockbroker who will deal for them through the relevant market-maker. It may prove more difficult to sell the shares if liquidity in that particular stock turns out

But you never know. Your money may help to get a future Richard Branson off the ground.

**THE THIRD MARKET: COMPANIES WHOSE SECURITIES TRADED ON THE FIRST DAY**

Company	Sponsor	Market-makers
Abelscot Group plc (graphic materials & equipment suppliers)	Alexanders, Laing & Cruckshank	County Securities Alexanders, Laing & Cruckshank
Aberdeen American Petroleum (mineral exploitation)	Rowe & Pitman Ltd	Warburg Securities Barclays de Zoete Wedd Robert Fleming
Allied Insurance Brokers (Insurance broking)	Guidehouse Securities	Alexanders, Laing & Cruckshank Guidehouse Securities
Catalyst Communications (public relations & publishing)	Brewin Dolphin & Company	County Securities Henderson, White Jenkins
Eglington Oil & Gas plc (mineral exploitation)	Graig Middleton & Company	Scrimgeour Vickers Warburg Securities Barclays de Zoete Wedd
Publishing Holdings (publishing)	Graig Middleton & Company	County Securities Stock Beech
Theme Holdings (restaurants, health clubs)	Guidehouse Securities	County Securities RBC KITKAT Ltd
Unit Group plc (manufacture timber pallets)	Guidehouse Securities	County Securities Guidehouse Securities

## UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

[illegible]



FAMILY MONEY/2

# Lloyds, the bank in your front room

Lloyds Bank customers will soon be able to take part in a home banking experiment based on an ordinary domestic telephone. Initially the system will handle a range of simple transactions for individual customers. These will include answering account balance inquiries and taking orders for statements, cheque books, travellers' cheques and foreign currency. It will also be possible for customers to give instructions for money to be transferred from one account to another, and pay their Access or other bills, such as gas and electricity.

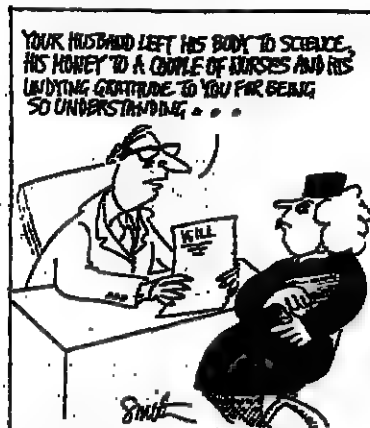
The experiment is due to start in September and the bank's plan is that by the end of the year the system will be in operation in at least 1,000 homes throughout the country, including those of customers who have expressed an interest in such a system.

## NatWest gets into gear for BA

NatWest's new touch-screen dealing service for British Airways shares. The NatWest screen dealing service was introduced in mid-December for the British Gas issue and has handled more than 140,000 transactions involving 120 million shares. British Gas dealing will be withdrawn from the screen service on February 6 and will be replaced by British Airways dealing on February 16. The service will be available for non-customers as well as customers. Private investors will be able to use the system to sell any number of shares between 50 and 5,000 by

taking their letter of allocation to any of the 245 NatWest branches that operate the system. A settlement cheque will be issued there and then.

The scale of commission for British Airways share sales is the same as NatWest charge for other quoted shares — 1.5 per cent up to £5,000 and 1 per cent on the next £7,500, with a minimum charge of £15. The NatWest technology is impressive, but such was the scale of the British Gas operation that some potential users complained of long queue delays. With the Government's stated aim of deepening rather than broadening share ownership with British Airways, the system should be able to cope better this time round.



## Pensions warning

The Labour and Alliance party leaders were warned by Legal & General this week that they must agree to accept the framework of the Government's new pensions legislation.

The new personal pensions are a simple, attractive and practical way to extend pensions coverage to many people not in occupational schemes, according to L&G's pensions director Chris Hatry. Mr Hatry said it would be tragic if the new pensions proposals were scrapped, particularly as they are the result of two years of intensive consultation. But, he warned, the lack of party agreement on pensions meant there was considerable political uncertainty as to what would happen to pensions if the present Government lost the next general election.

Although the present Chancellor, Nigel Lawson, has indicated that he has no plans to change the tax system before the next election, whoever occupies 11 Downing Street after the election could make changes that would be to the disadvantage of all present and future pension owners, says Mr Hatry. L&G has written to Labour and Alliance leaders calling on them to accept the framework of the 1986 pensions legislation.

## Higher Giro

National Girobank is introducing a high-interest deposit account for personal customers. It will be available from Monday.

The new account will provide customers with a tiered interest rate structure with higher rates being paid for larger balances. No notice of withdrawal will be required and no interest penalties will be imposed. The tiers will start with a minimum balance of £1,000 and, in the first tier, for balances up to £3,999, an interest rate of at least 2 per cent above Girobank's ordinary deposit rate will be paid. A higher rate will be paid for balances between £4,000 and £9,999 and for savings with £10,000 or more to invest, the rate will be higher again. Interest will be calculated daily on cleared balances with statements issued quarterly.

## PEPs at the double

The M&G unit trust group has launched a Personal Equity Plan scheme limited to its own unit trusts. Investors can contribute up to £420 a year, either as a lump sum or in regular monthly payments of £35, into a choice of 23 M&G unit trusts. There are no management fees other than the normal charges of the underlying unit trusts.

Also new on the PEPs front is the choice of two plans from Courts Bank. These are available only if you are a customer, except by what the top people's bank calls "special arrangement".

## Growing Gold

Leeds Permanent Building Society has increased the interest rates on the top two tiers of its Liquid Gold Account. The rate on balances of £5,000 and over is up

from 8.25 per cent to 8.5 per cent (11.97 per cent gross). The interest rate on balances of £10,000 and over is increased from 8.5 per cent to 8.75 per cent (12.32 per cent gross).

## Your business book

Yorkshire Bank has published the first of a series of booklets designed for business customers. It is called *Going into Business* and it tackles a list of important questions from "Should I go into business?" and "Should I go it alone?" to "What help is available and where?"

Starting or buying a first business can be an exciting and rewarding experience but the bank pulls no



punches in pointing out that it is not an easy option and that success in business is likely to need advice and support.

The booklet takes people wanting to be their own boss step by step through the stages of deciding on the best business, starting up and seeking finance, and planning for future success and profit.

A cash flow forecast and guide designed specifically for a new business comes with the booklet, which is available at all branches of the Yorkshire Bank.

## For home swaps

In the article on home swaps in last Saturday's Family Money, the address and telephone number of Interchange Holidays were wrongly quoted. The correct details are 6 Blackden Close, Belper, Derbyshire (0773 824067).

# Another innovation from Fidelity

## The cheapest, easiest way to buy Gilt.

## With a monthly income.

Announcing two important breakthroughs for gilt investors. Fidelity has abolished totally the initial charges on its Gilt & Fixed Interest Trust and has introduced monthly income payments.

Our Gilt & Fixed Interest Trust is now the cheapest, easiest way to invest in a professionally managed portfolio of gilts. It's even cheaper than the Post Office. By dropping the normal 3% initial charge the average gilt investor saves several hundred pounds. With the introduction of monthly income payments you enjoy the high return gilt investment offers on a much more regular basis. A secure income protected by the Government, offering a current gross yield of 9.92% at 27th January 1987.

Fidelity now leads the way in gilt investment. Call us today about these major innovations. The lines are open between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. every weekend and from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Friday. If you have difficulty in calling us due to the BT dispute, please try again or post the coupon.

Remember the price of units and income from them can go down as well as up.

Callfree Fidelity 0800 414161

To: Fidelity Investment Services Limited, River Walk, Tunbridge, Kent TN9 1DY. Please send me details of Fidelity's enhanced Gilt and Fixed Interest Trust.

Full name: Mr Mrs Miss \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fidelity**  
MAKING MONEY MAKE MONEY

Fidelity Unit Trust Managers Competition Winners 1986 Daily Telegraph Unit Trust Managers of the Year 1986 Money Magazine

# A fair air share

At 125p a share, British Airways looks a good buy-and-fly for those as well as a sound longer-term holding for investors who want direct equity exposure to a major airline.

The price, announced on Tuesday, was at the bottom end of the range predicted by City analysts, who are now forecasting a market price of at least 140p when official dealings are expected to open on February 11.

With major equity markets around the world experiencing new highs, conditions could hardly have been better for the BA chairman Lord King to welcome his new shareholders. The prospectus has now been published and during the next few days mini-prospectuses will be available from banks, stockbrokers and financial advisers and from BA travel shops.

Minimum purchase is 400 shares, making a minimum total purchase price of £500, but payment for the shares will be in two instalments, the first

65p per ordinary share being payable on application and the remaining 60p by August 18. At the minimum application level the amount payable on application is £260 with the balance of £240 payable in August. For private investors who continue to hold shares bought in the offer for sale until February 28, 1990, there will be a bonus of one free share for every 10 shares held. The maximum number of additional shares an individual can receive is 400.

Completed application forms and cheques must be in by not later than 10 a.m. next Friday, but unlike British Gas there is no guarantee that even minimum applications will be successful. The only official word on balloting this week came from David Backs, of Hill Samuel, the merchant bank handling the offer for sale for the Government. Mr Backs said that although it was the minister's strong desire to avoid balloting, no final decision could be made until after the closing date when the



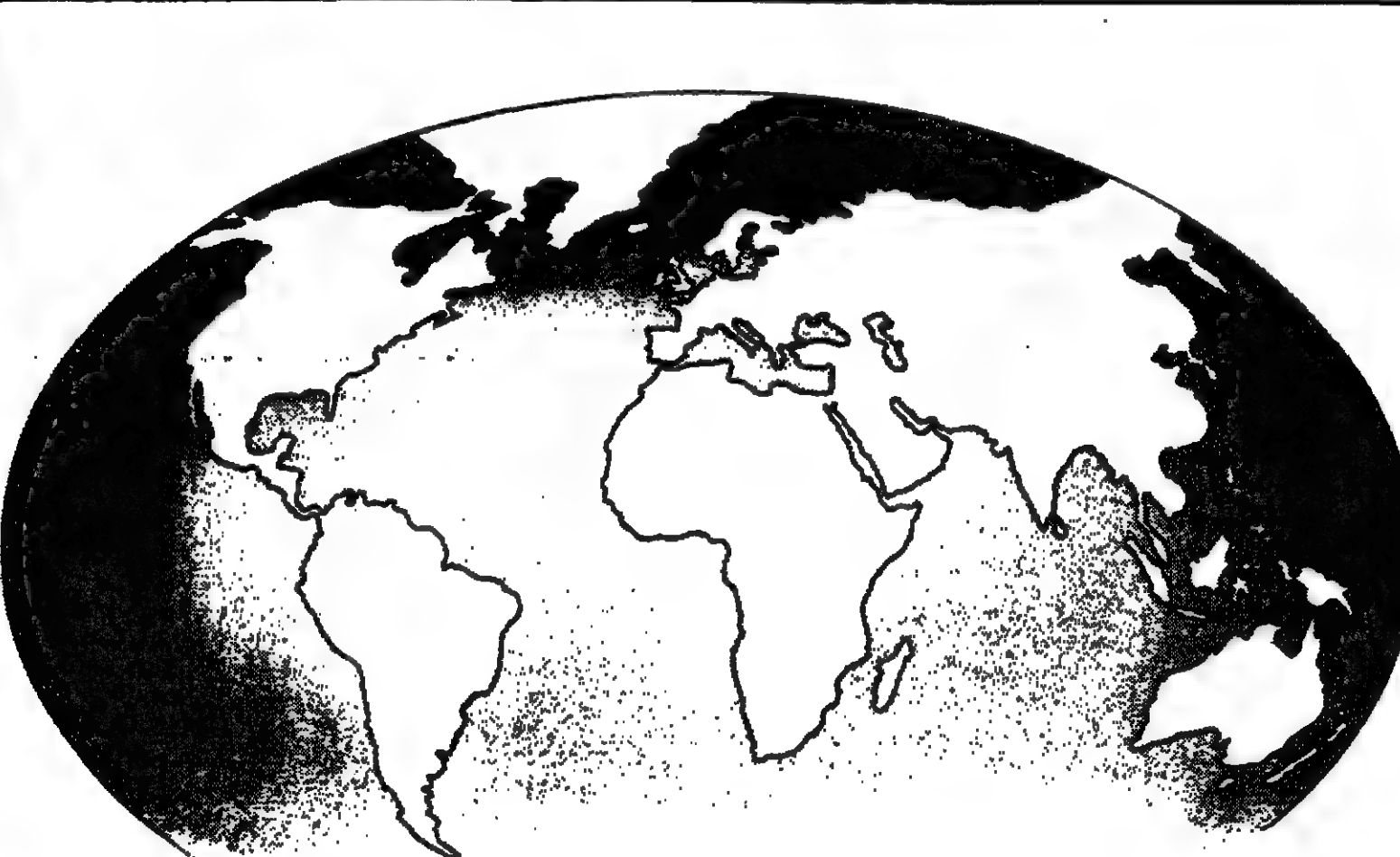
Lord King: best conditions

level of applications would be known.

There is a fairly complicated system of allocation, which will be triggered if demand reaches a certain point. For example, if the UK public offer is approximately three times subscribed, 20 per cent of the shares initially allocated to the overseas markets and UK institutions will be made available to the UK public and employees.

This is an offer worth going for, but don't be too disappointed if you do not get any shares.

Peter Gartland



# All yours for 64p

You can now buy units in our International Trust for around 64 pence each. And this investment couldn't be simpler.

## Our pick of the world

We aim to invest in the pick of the world's stock markets. And to select top, well-managed companies in countries that are set to do well.

At MLA we expect the world's major economies to do well this year. As the Daily Telegraph said (30 December 1986), they look set to benefit from Japanese investment abroad, which provides "a strong underpinning for the world equity boom." Reassurance indeed.

We believe that continental Europe, Japan and Hong Kong are all poised for more growth in 1987. We plan to take advantage of opportunities in these markets as they arise, for maximum capital growth.

## A 31.7% return in 1986

In 1986 alone our International Trust grew by 31.7% (on an offer-to-bid basis with income re-invested). And since its launch in March 1983 it's grown by 147%.

Although past performance is not necessarily any guide to

the future, we believe our trust has good prospects for 1987. And we'd like you to join in.

## About your investment

The MLA International Trust is just one of six unit trusts managed by MLA Unit Trust Management, part of a group which has been trading since 1903 and whose funds under management now exceed £850 million.

Remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

With markets in the UK, Japan and USA reaching new highs we believe that now is a good time to invest. Worldwide.

On 28 January 1987 the offer price was 63.3p and the estimated gross current yield was 0.83%. Our prices are published in the Daily Telegraph, Financial Times and Times. So you can see how this investment performs throughout 1987. You can also obtain further details through our free Linkline number, 0800 525131 (Monday-Friday, 9am to 6pm).

On receipt of your cheque, a contract note will be issued immediately, and your unit certificate will be despatched within six weeks. You can sell your investment on any business day at the bid price and receive the proceeds within seven days.

# National Provident Institution

## Notice of Special General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of members of National Provident Institution will be held at the City Conference Centre, 76 Mark Lane, London EC3 on Tuesday 17 February 1987 at 12.30pm to consider and, if thought fit, to pass the following resolution:

"That the Bill, introduced or proposed to be introduced into Parliament, promoted by the National Provident Institution, in the Session 1986/87 and entitled

'A Bill to repeal the National Provident Institution Act 1910 and the National Provident Institution Act 1964; to make new provision for the regulation and management of the National Provident Institution; and for other purposes'

which is now submitted to this meeting, a copy of which has been signed by the Chairman for purposes of identification, be and the same is hereby approved subject to such additions, alterations and variations as Parliament may see fit to make therein and the Directors may approve."

The main purpose of the Bill is to update the constitution of NPI and to provide flexibility for the future.

By order of the Board, A. P. M. Davis, Secretary.  
48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH

**NPI**

**MLA · INTERNATIONAL · TRUST**



# It's your day for decisions

Entries for *The Times* 1987 Unit Trusts Competition have been arriving all week and today on this page we publish the entry form for the second Saturday running and for the last time for those readers who have not already entered.

Remember the competition is limited to one entry per person and entries must be in by next Thursday.

Readers will not necessarily want to follow the experts' predictions. Experience suggests that amateurs who work on gut feel and common sense have as much prospect of getting markets right as the professionals with their charts, graphs and research briefings.

Unfair on the professionals? Probably a little. As one of our panelists, Peter Edwards, puts it: "Thank heaven we professionals can adjust client portfolios to circumstances and are not locked into December 31, 1987."

Jamie Berry, of Berry Asset Management, believes we are still in a bull market and that there is every chance it will run for most, if not all, of this year. He has opted for three funds that offer an international spread and which are relatively small and aggressively managed.

The three are Baring East-

ern, offering exposure to Hong Kong and Australia. Oppenheimer Worldwide Recovery, whose investments are directed one-third towards Europe, 20 per cent in the UK and 15 per cent in the United States, and Touche Remnant Global Technology.

Mr Berry has picked this last fund on the basis that if there is a continuation of the bull market in the United States, technology stocks could come good. This fund's main geographical spread is 58 per cent US, 20 per cent UK, and 14 per cent Japan.

Peter Edwards, of the Bristol-based Premier Unit Trust

## Market that may surprise us

Brokers, says 1987 looks like a toss-up between Wall Street and London and that, although Japan looks due for a setback soon, it could surprise us by the year-end. Hong Kong and European funds should come good once more, says Mr Edwards, but probably not Australia, Singapore/Malaysia, commodity or gold funds.

Mr Edwards says that although the United States has excellent prospects, if the dollar weakens further or sterling

really strengthens, fund performance will be cut back. Although he is looking for a strong UK market in the early months of 1987, there could be a rough ride later because of political considerations.

Mr Edwards plumps for Baring Japan Special, Henderson American Smaller Companies and Touche Remnant Special Opportunities.

Our third expert, Peter Hargreaves, of unit trust advisers Hargreaves Lansdown, also Bristol-based, goes for Clerical Medical Special Situations, Murray Johnstone Olympiad and Touche Remnant Global Technology.

He chooses Clerical Medical, which will be biased towards the UK, because he feels Britain will be a special situations market and that the Clerical Medical fund should be one that can cope with prediction fitters and profit-taking in the summer. Clerical Medical, he says, will also be trying hard because it wants to make its name in the UK market.

On the recently launched Murray Johnstone Olympiad fund, Mr Hargreaves says that looking for value on a worldwide basis is now more the name of the game than trying to select specific markets that will do well.

Because 1987 will be a year for looking for value wherever it may be found, says Mr Hargreaves, stock-picking will be all the more important. He chooses Touche Remnant Global Technology because it has performed well in its sector even when that sector has not done well. Even so, he concedes it is a little more spicy than his other selections.

Mark Searle, of Richards Longstaff, chooses Thornton Tiger, Henderson Singapore and Malaysia, and Providence Capital Swiss Equities.

Thornton Tiger concentrates on the smaller markets of the Far East, many of

## Added boost of trade with China

which, it is argued, have benefited from the sharp appreciation of the yen, which has been good for the export prospects of the smaller markets. Hong Kong, Singapore, South Korea and, to a lesser extent, the Philippines and Thailand could all feel the favourable effect of Japan's highly valued yen. For Hong Kong there is the added boost of a recovery in its trade with mainland China.

Mr Searle stays with the Far East smaller markets for an-

other of his selections - Henderson Singapore and Malaysia. There are signs of a regeneration in the Singapore economy, he argues. He hopes Malaysia will follow suit. His choice of Providence Capital's Swiss Equities fund is based on his assessment of Switzerland as having a stable and well managed economy, plus well-known international companies.

This year, for the first time, we are providing *The Times* choice of three unit trusts. Our three naps are Dumenil Spanish Growth, EBC Amro French Growth and the John Govett Pacific Strategy fund.

All three selections are unashamedly high-risk and will do very well or extremely badly. The French and Spanish selections are based on recent good results in those markets, which we are confident will continue for some time. The Far East choice has been made for reasons similar to those cited by Mr Searle in his Thornton Tiger selection.

Many unit trust investors will also see that our three are funds that have recently been launched. Hard evidence that new funds do better than their older brethren is difficult to come by but we feel there is sufficient empirical evidence. If there is, it may be because

## HOW TO ENTER

Enter *The Times* Unit Trusts Competition 1987 and you could win £500, £250 or £150. There are three categories - General, Professional Adviser and Under-18s - and there will be three prizes in each.

Pick the three unit trusts you believe will provide the best return during the coming months. To help you make your choice we are including the performance figures showing how unit trusts fared

during the period of our competition last year (see facing page).

To help you further, we also give a list of new unit trusts launched during 1986. Your choice of unit trusts might even include ones that have been launched in the early part of 1987. This is acceptable.

All three of your choices will be taken into account. The winner in each category will be the unit whose total return is the greatest on the assumption of a national £100 in-

vested in each of the three choices. Switching is not allowed during the year.

Just fill in the entry form below. Only entries on official entry forms will be accepted and they must arrive at *The Times* not later than Thursday, February 5. The results will be announced in Saturday's *Family Money* in *The Times* during January 1988, and throughout this year we shall be checking periodically on the progress (or otherwise) of our experts' tips.

## 1987 Competition Rules

1. Competitors are invited to use their skill and judgment to select three UK authorized unit trusts (not offshore funds) which they believe will outperform all others during 1987.
2. The winner will be the competitor whose three choices, taken together, show the best performance in the period February 1 to December 31, 1987, on the basis of a notional £100 investment in each of the three choices.
3. Entries will be limited to one per person and must be made on official entry forms printed in *The Times*. Photocopies are not acceptable.
4. Opening prices will be those published on Saturday, January 31, 1987. Closing prices will be those of Thursday, December 31.
5. In the event of unit trusts merging, final performance will be calculated as performance to the date of the merger, plus performance of the merged trust to the end of the competition period.
6. Performance will be monitored by *Planned Savings* magazine and is on an offer-to-offer basis, with net income reinvested.
7. Entries must be received by Thursday, February 5, at the offices of *The Times*.
8. Proof of posting will not be accepted as evidence of receipt.
9. Employees of News International, Times Newspapers and their families are ineligible to enter.
10. The editors' decision in all matters is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

## ENTRY FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_  
My three unit trust choices for 1987 are:  
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Category (Please tick appropriate box)  
General ☐ Professional Adviser ☐ Under 18 years ☐  
Send your completed entry form to The Editor, *Family Money*, The Times, 1 Finsbury Street, London EC2A 4PU. Completed entry forms to arrive not later than February 5, 1987.  
PLEASE MARK YOUR ENVELOPE - UNIT TRUSTS COMPETITION

## Peter Gartland

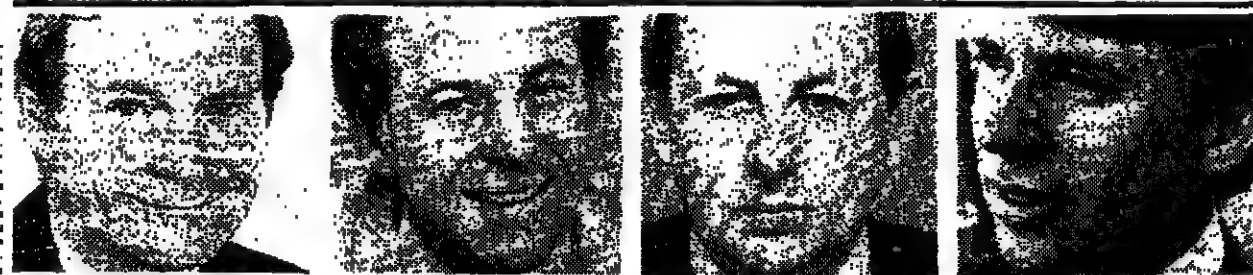
## THE EXPERTS' CHOICE

**JAMIE BERRY**  
● Baring Eastern  
● Oppenheimer Worldwide Recovery  
● Touche Remnant Global Technology  
**PETER EDWARDS**  
● Baring Japan Special  
● Henderson American Smaller Companies  
● Touche Remnant Special Opportunities

**PETER HARGREAVES**  
● Clerical Medical Special Situations  
● Murray Johnstone Olympiad  
● Touche Remnant Global Technology

**MARK SEARLE**  
● Thornton Tiger  
● Henderson Singapore and Malaysia  
● Providence Capital Swiss Equities

**THE TIMES**  
● Dumenil Spanish Growth  
● EBC Amro French Growth  
● John Govett Pacific Strategy



# ACT NOW! BONUS CLOSES FEB 4th 1987

# EUROPE

## It's TSB's choice for growth in '87. Make it yours, too!

Europe is still the investment world's front runner for growth. Which is why our Investment Managers have chosen TSB European Unit Trust as their recommendation for your investment in 1987.

Launched in March 1986, TSB European Unit Trust has already attracted over £32 million, with original investors enjoying a rise of 16.6% in the value of their holdings.

And we are fully confident that TSB European Unit Trust is set to continue this trend for the foreseeable future.

## The TSB approach to Europe

For our Investment Managers, Europe is not just one market but many. And success in those markets lies in identifying the right shares, and buying them at the right time.

In Germany, for example, the right shares will be those in companies concentrating on the home market, and least likely to be affected by the international impact of the strong Deutschmark.

\*Offer to bid basis as at 28.1.87.

**CONSISTENT RESULTS**  
If, in the four years since January 1983, you had invested £1,000 each year in each of our "Daily Telegraph" Unit Trust Managers' Competition entries, your £4,000 outlay would have been worth £8,948 on December 31st 1986.  
Offer to bid basis, all income re-invested.



## The long-term outlook

With Europe's individual markets supported by fundamental economic strengths, our Managers believe the prospects for TSB European Unit Trust not only look attractive over the year ahead but also for some time to come.



Remember, the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. You should therefore consider your investment as medium to long term.

## Invest for a bonus now

To invest in TSB European Unit Trust, simply complete and return the buying order below, together with your cheque, made payable to TSB Unit Trusts Limited.

**Do this before February 4th 1987 - and invest £1,000 or more - and you'll qualify for a 1% bonus of free extra units. Invest £5,000 or more and you'll get a 2% bonus.**

It's another good reason for making our choice yours - for 1987 and beyond.

## THE FACTS ABOUT THIS TRUST

Managers: TSB Unit Trusts Limited (Members of the Unit Trust Association). Investment Managers: TSB Investment Management Limited.

Trustees: General Accident Insurance and Trustee Company Limited.

Charges: 5% on each initial purchase; thereafter 1% p.a. (plus VAT) of the Fund's value, deducted from the Trust's income. The Trust Deed allows for a maximum charge of 1½% p.a. if the Managers will give unitholders at least 3 months' written notice of any change. These charges are included in the price at which units are offered.

Selling back units: Units can be sold back to us on any business day at the bid price ruling on the day instructions are received.

Payment will normally be made within 7 days of receipt of a renounced unit certificate.

TSB Unit Trusts Limited is one of the most successful companies in its field. It is also one of the largest. Turning in a consistently good performance, our investment managers look after over £1 billion on behalf of thousands of people like you. And we're part of the Group that likes to say "Yes".

Agents: Units may be purchased through qualified agents to whom commission is payable at rates available on request.  
Prices/Yields: Accumulation Units were being offered at 0.20p each and the estimated gross yield (equivalent to interest payable) was 0.93% on 28.1.87. Prices and yields are quoted daily in the national press.  
Income distribution: Income is payable on April 2nd and October 2nd each year. New investors who require income in April 1987 must invest before February 2nd 1987, otherwise the first distribution will be made in October 1987.  
Registered Office: Chancery Place, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RE. Registered in England and Wales, number 1629925.



## BUYING ORDER: TSB EUROPEAN UNIT TRUST

To: Ann Roberts, TSB Unit Trusts Limited, Freeport, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RR. Tel: (0264) 63432/3/4

I/We wish to invest £ \_\_\_\_\_

I/We invest £2500 in TSB European Unit Trust at the offer price ruling on the day of receipt of this buying order. I/We understand this will include a 1% bonus of units if I/we invest £1,000 or more; 2% if I/we invest £5,000 or more; 4.25%.

I/We enclose a cheque made payable to TSB Unit Trusts Limited.

As a general rule, your income will be used to increase the value of your investment. If you would prefer to receive your income in twice yearly payments, please tick here ☐. For details of how you can exchange shares for units in the fund, please tick here ☐ or telephone the above number.

(BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Mr/Ms/Miss/Ms (Forename)

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

(In the case of joint applications, all applicants must sign their names and addresses, and sign on a separate piece of paper. This offer is not open to people under the age of 18, or to residents of the Republic of Ireland.)

## AN OUTSTANDING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY FROM SKIPTON BUILDING SOCIETY

# 20.3%

PER ANNUM AVERAGE UNIT PRICE GROWTH OF THE SCOTTISH WIDOWS MIXED FUND OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

All the potential rewards of investing in the financial markets of the world, with all the security of successful management in a proven capital investment bond.

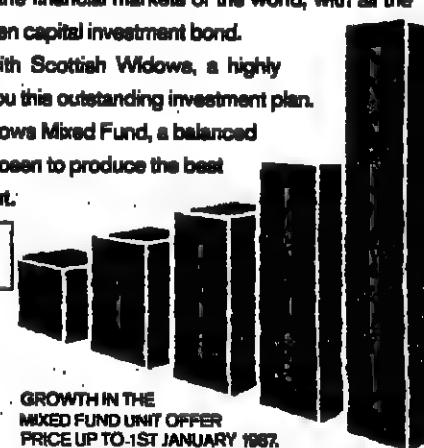
Skipton Building Society has joined with Scottish Widows, a highly reputable life assurance company, to offer you this outstanding investment plan.

Your money will go into the Scottish Widows Mixed Fund, a balanced portfolio of UK and overseas investments, chosen to produce the best results consistent with responsible investment.

## CONSISTENT GROWTH

Outstanding growth is the aim of this investment and, as you can see from the bar chart right, that has been achieved.

Of course past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance and it must be remembered that unit values can go down as well as up. But this investment has been consistently successful over the past five years, and there is no foreseeable reason why it should not continue to work hard for you.



## EXCLUSIVE TO THE SKIPTON PLAN

You can invest any amount from £2,000 upwards, in the Plan. But if you invest £6,000 or more a bonus of 0.5% will be immediately added to your capital. And if your investment is £10,000 or more, you'll get an even bigger bonus of 1.0%.

If you're looking for capital growth in a fund that makes the most of financial opportunities worldwide, complete the coupon below and send it FREEPOST (no stamp needed) to Skipton Building Society.

ONE OF THE TOP TWENTY UK BUILDING SOCIETIES



SKIPTON BUILDING SOCIETY FREEPOST, SKIPTON BD23 1BR. TELEPHONE: (0758) 4581  
BRANCHES AND AGENTS THROUGHOUT THE U.K. MEMBER OF THE BUILDING SOCIETIES ASSOCIATION

## CAPITAL GROWTH PLAN

TO THE INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT, SKIPTON BUILDING SOCIETY, FREEPOST, SKIPTON, NORTH YORKS. BD23 1BR.

Please send me full details of your Capital Growth Plan. I am over 18 years old.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ T26



**FAMILY MONEY/4**

**THE OBSERVER  
UNIT TRUST MANAGERS  
OF THE YEAR**



# The top performing UK-invested unit trust over 5 years

To invest in Mercury Recovery Fund, simply complete the coupon below.

MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD. - PART OF MERCURY ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD.,  
33 KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON EC4R 9AS.  
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS IS A MEMBER OF THE UNIT TRUST ASSOCIATION.

To: Mercury Fund Managers Ltd., FREEPOST, London EC4B 4DQ. Tel: 01-280 2860.  
(Registered Office Registered in England No 18257)

To: Mercury Fund Managers Ltd., FREEPOST, London EC4B 4DQ. Tel: 01-280 2560.  
(Registered Office: Registered in England No. 103547)

Please invest £\_\_\_\_\_ in Mercury Recovery Fund (minimum initial investment £1,000) in ACCUMULATION/DISTRIBUTION\* unit - at the price ruling on receipt of this application.

DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY. A contract note will be sent to you.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss) \_\_\_\_\_

Full Forename(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

I am/we are over 18 years of age.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Particulars and signatures of all joint applicants should be attached. \*Please delete as appropriate - otherwise distributions will be allocated. \*Payments and correspondence will be sent to this address unless you specify otherwise. This offer is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland.

T13/10

**Members of FIMBRA**  
**Offices in London & Leeds**

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The aim of Mercury Recovery Fund is to seek capital growth by investing in companies whose share prices are depressed for one reason or another but which offer attractive recovery prospects. No particular level of increase will be aimed for and the Fund is not recommended for investors seeking a consistently high level of income. The Managers may also invest in foreign equities and fixed interest securities when these appear appropriate.

The minimum initial investment in the Fund is £1,000. Subsequent investments may be made in increments of at least £100.

Units may be purchased or sold at offer and bid prices calculated daily. Prices and yields will be published daily in the Financial Times and prices in the Daily Telegraph but without responsibility for any errors in publication or for non-publication.

Consideration will only be given to such offers within two days of receipt of applications and

payment is due on receipt of the contract note. Certificates will normally be sent within four weeks of receipt of payment. Units can be realised at any time and payment will normally be made within seven days of receipt of the term-sold certificates.

**Management Charges:** an annual charge of 4 per cent is included in the offer price of shares. The annual management charge is 1 per cent (plus VAT) of the value of the Fund which is charged monthly against income and taken into account when calculating the price of units. On every third month, however, the Manager will be permitted to increase the charge to a maximum of 1.5 per cent (plus VAT). The Managers are also entitled to rounding adjustments included in the bid and offer prices 1 p.p. to 1 p.p. or 12.5 p.p. whichever is less.

**Audited annual accounts** will be sent to unit-holders, and a copy of the per cent of the Fund, together with the statement of holdings, will be sent to unit-holders once a year on 15th June and 15th December.

The net income of the Trust is distributed to shareholders on 15th June and 15th December each year. The Manager's total accumulated income is 25% of the net yield at the other end of distribution on units on 20th January 1997 of 2.26 pence, the limited income of 20% annual yield is 2.42 pence per unit.  
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## Go break a leg, but be sure you're covered

### INSURANCE

Planning a late winter skiing holiday? **ROD MORRISON** offers some timely insurance advice

Few people set off on a winter holiday with the idea of breaking a leg. But the possibility is there and, of all the popular sporting activities, skiing is the one requiring some cover by insurance.

Many tour operators insist on cover being taken out, either through schemes provided by themselves or from other sources. The cost of tour operator packages is usually cheaper, as insurers prefer dealing with bulk business, but the cheaper the cover the lower the benefits.

Although insurance companies are not tripping over themselves to offer policies tailored to the winter market, shopping around, for instance to obtain special cover for ski equipment, can be rewarding and is of course essential for those making their own holiday arrangements.

Given the added risks of skiing, premiums on winter sports policies are usually double the normal holiday rates. Some tour operators insist on holidaymakers using the policies they offer but for those not subject to such restrictive practices there are a number of points to consider when buying insurance.

For a start, a decent level of medical expense cover should be obtained. The usual norms quoted are £100,000 for European holidays, rising to £250,000 for North American and Swiss holidays. Included within these figures, usually, are the costs of repatriation

services. These are vital if the appropriate medical treatment is not available at the resort and it is necessary to fly back home.

If treatment abroad is necessary, some policies provide a benefit for every day spent as an in-patient, of between £10 and £20. If the accident is really severe, personal accident cover comes into play.

This provides a sum in the event of permanent disablement or death. Occasionally the death benefit is lower. But one word of warning — the insurer might not pay either benefit if the skier had had a few drinks, at lunchtime for instance, before venturing on to the piste.

Winter presents other problems. The recent cold spell made even the simplest journey to work difficult, and delays on holiday can be both annoying and expensive.

With holiday insurance, cover against delays can be split into three groups.

First, a benefit can be paid for every 12 hours the trip is delayed, up to a cash limit of £100 for the most generous policies. With Norwich

### Compensation for delayed baggage

Union, General Accident and NatWest the benefit is free but it costs £1 extra with Bishopsgate, Commercial Union and Eagle Star.

Secondly, an amount can be paid to compensate for the costs incurred through delayed baggage. This is offered by Norwich Union, General Accident and Bishopsgate.

Finally, if the public transport system fails to get the holidaymaker to the departure

point on time, a benefit is paid to meet additional accommodation expenses and is given by most insurers.

A winter policy also has the loss of baggage and personal property benefits contained in any holiday policy. The maximum limits for claiming under this section are usually £1,000 or above. But the payments on any one item will be restricted to well below that figure, to around £200-£250.

So the full cost of replacing an expensive item will not be met. Another detail to consider is the amount the insurance company deducts before settling a claim — the excess.

To claim, policyholders have to report losses to the police within 24 hours. Loss of money can also be included but some policies have separate limits for money.

But excluded from cover altogether are contact lenses. And Norwich Union goes further by offering a 25 per cent discount on premiums if the whole section is taken out. The company suggests that cover arranged under a household policy, applicable for 30 days out of the country, could have already insured personal baggage on holiday.

Most of the insurances mentioned are included in standard holiday packages. The only difference is that winter policies suffer higher premiums. But Bishopsgate and NatWest Insurance, a division, with a policy underwritten by General Accident, offer special ski insurance.

Bishopsgate provides three added ski benefits to policyholders. It will pay to replace lost or damaged winter sports equipment but only up to £250. There is a limit of £150 on any one article dropping to £100 for hired equipment.

To pay towards the cost of hiring new skis, the policy pays up to £100. Bishopsgate also pays a proportion of the cost of pre-booked ski packs, up to £180 if the policyholder cannot continue skiing.

Finally, the policy provides a piste closure benefit. For an



Excitement on the slopes will certainly add all that

extra £2 on the premium, a payment of £15 a day is given towards the costs of finding alternative slopes.

Under the NatWest policy, the piste closure benefit is free but it is limited to £5 a day. Yet the policy also provides up to £100 in the event of an avalanche. Ski equipment is not given a separate section but ski pack payments can be

### More flexible but more expensive

up to £75 a week. The benefit for hiring new skis is limited to £60.

Optional travel policies can be an alternative to packaged policies. Under these, a policyholder can choose the level of cover he or she requires in every section. Yet though this route offers

flexibility, it is much more expensive.

Regular skiers in Britain can also take out insurance. Under General Accident's family sports policy, a £15 premium will cover one member of the family, with £4 extra payable for every additional member for a year.

But for winter sports, the policy contains significant exclusions, including no cover for damage to equipment, total disablement, third party liability on any equipment supplied by the policyholder, and any incidents arising from ski jumping or racing.

Glasgow-based broker Milngavie and Bearsden charges £25 for its cover, available from November 1 to July 1. The policy covers rescue from the slopes, a "get you home service" and cover for sticks and bindings.

### WINTER SPORTS HOLIDAY INSURANCE (EUROPE)

Company	Personal accident	Medical expenses	Personal liability	Cancellation	Personal property	Money	Premiums (single 17 days)
Bishopsgate	£15,000	£1 million	£500,000	£1,000	£1,000	£250	£21 £21.50
Commercial Union	£5,000	£1 million	£500,000	£5,000	£1,000	£250	£27.50 £41.50
Eagle Star	£5,000	£250,000	£500,000	£1,000	£1,000	£250	£24 £30
General Accident	£5,000	£100,000	£500,000	£5,000	£2,000	£250	£25 £30
Norwich Union	£5,000	£500,000	£500,000	£1,000	£1,000	£250	£30 £30
Prudential	£5,000	£500,000	£1 million	£2,000	£1,000	£250	£24 £24

\* Cover for nine days \* Part of personal property limit \* Cover for eight days \* Cover for 16 days

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### NEW UNIT TRUST GROUP OF 1986

Roger Carroll, 21 December 1986

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### SMALL GROUP OF 1986

Joanna Slaughter, 14 December 1986

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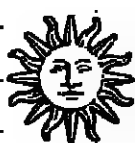
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## FAMILY MONEY/6

## Cash that comes with baby

## MATERNITY

Nature probably provides a full nine months between conception and birth to ensure that any woman who is pregnant has time to take in all the detailed rules covering benefits and the right to return to work.

Finding them out will be worse than ever this year, for the benefits system is due to change on April 6 — though that will affect only women whose babies are due on June 21 and later. The new scheme is more flexible than the old one, and a look at the arrangements, old and new, may be useful.

● **Maternity Grant** was the first benefit ever to appear, though it has been stuck at a flat £25 for 20 years or more. It is due to disappear on April 5, at least for most people. From then on it will go only to women who are on supplementary benefit or family income supplement — themselves, or whose families receive them.

But at least it will be worth claiming, as it will be worth a full £80 to people who qualify for it.

● **Statutory Maternity Benefit** — the new scheme — is designed to combine the present, weekly maternity allowance, which comes from the Post Office and lasts for 18 weeks, and the six weeks of maternity pay, which go to most mothers-to-be at work.

The crucial date to watch is June 21. If your baby is due before that day, you are covered by the present system. From then on Statutory Maternity Pay applies.

One point that makes both systems seem complex is that they calculate everything in weeks — though once you remember that nine months are roughly the same as 40 weeks, the details are rather easier.

Who will qualify for the new Statutory Maternity Benefit? The answer is anyone who has worked with the same employer continuously for a full six months, and is still there 15 weeks before the baby is due. Timing is crucial. You need to stage an appearance on at least one day of the 15th week to be sure of getting it.

You certainly do not have to stop work there and then —

and the new system will give you some choice on when to make the move. The Statutory Maternity Benefit will not usually appear until 11 weeks before the baby is due, though you can decide to postpone it for up to four weeks if you wish.

But if you are still in the office and the baby's splash-down is less than seven weeks away, you may lose some of the benefit. All the same, there is more flexibility than there was.

But claim it in time, and Statutory Maternity Pay will

too if they have been there for five years.

The company has to provide you with nine months of normal pay (though the basic maternity benefit forms part of that total) for these six weeks. The Statutory Maternity Benefit then appears for the other 12 weeks at only the basic rate.

You have to activate the system by giving your employer at least three weeks' notice that you are off to have a baby, and sending in the form B1, which a doctor or midwife should give you when

the final safety net. You can collect that at least if you earned more than £1775 in the 1985-86 tax year, which ended on April 5, 1986. At the moment sickness benefit is worth £30.05 a week, but this time the benefits will last for only nine weeks — starting three weeks before the baby is due.

The present arrangements, which apply if your baby is due to stage an appearance before June 21, provide the help from two sources rather than one.

First comes Maternity Allowance, which comes from the Post Office and lasts for 18 weeks (though it depends on your having paid National Insurance contributions in the previous year). That is taxable. Meanwhile you collect straight maternity pay from your employer for six weeks — though the employer deducts tax, National Insurance, and the maternity allowance he assumes you are receiving.

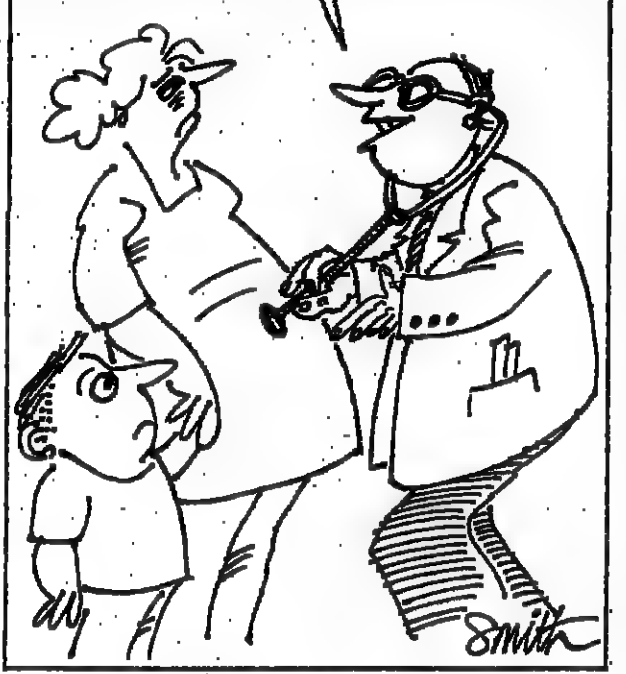
● **Returning to a job** after the baby is born is certainly possible, and the rules on the subject are not going to alter. Broadly speaking, you have the right to return if you have worked with your employer relatively full-time for two years, or part-time for five years. But you have to stay until 11 weeks before the baby is due and make clear, in advance, that you want to come back.

But if you are going to make the move, you must do so within 29 weeks of the child's appearance. Your employer does not have to give you exactly the same job. But the pay and conditions in any new job you do must be at least as good as those that covered you before. If a pay increase is agreed while you are away, you certainly have a right to benefit from it, for instance.

The best guide to all the changes comes from the Maternity Alliance based in Camden High Street, London, for the official guides can make the position look more complex than it need be. But with all the dates and calculations on the number of weeks to confinements, a calculator is just as crucial as a cradle to most working mothers.

Tom Tickell

YOUR BABY IS ANXIOUS THAT YOU READ UP ON THE NEW STATUTORY MATERNITY BENEFIT!



last for 18 weeks — just over four months, though the bulk of the money actually comes from the Government and employers claim it back.

The standard payment comes to £32.85 a week. But there will be more for the first six weeks after you leave work, provided that you have been with the employer for a while.

The higher rate covers you if you have worked in the company for two years relatively full-time (or at least more than 16 hours a week). Part-timers working eight to 16 hours with the same employer collect the higher rate

you are 28 weeks pregnant. What happens if you do not fulfil the conditions? There may be other benefits which apply, such as the state maternity allowance, for instance.

That may cover you if you are self-employed or have worked and paid National Insurance for at least six months in the year which ends in the year when you are 15 weeks from the baby's expected arrival.

That allowance stands at £30.05 and less, like Statutory Maternity Pay, for 18 weeks, and you claim it from your former employer in the same way. Sickness benefit provides

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1991-1992	1991-1992
1993-1994	1993-1994
1995-1996	1995-1996
1997-1998	1997-1998
1999-2000	1999-2000
2001-2002	2001-2002
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2013-2014	2013-2014
2015-2016	2015-2016
2017-2018	2017-2018
2019-2020	2019-2020
2021-2022	2021-2022
2023-2024	2023-2024
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## A little hope shines abroad

shadowed in joint ventures involving China, Japan and South Korea.

The overall picture is thus less gloomy than might be supposed from the horror stories told by expats returning home, or the reports of company spending reviews.

Certain realities have to be faced, however. Prominent among these is the question of shrinking salaries.

Little has changed since Inman's Management Consultants observed graphically that "the gravy train is starting to slow down", when its 1986 Survey of Expatriate Salaries was published.

Mr Edmunds says: "For those at middle management level, salaries have gone down, conditions have deteriorated badly, leave has been reduced, and paying for one's own food has been introduced on jobs which once paid a daily living allowance." Some contracts have been worth "little more than the paper they were written on".

Expats International's own survey has disclosed that although 29 per cent of all its members, at least half of whom hold professional or managerial qualifications, had enjoyed salary rises in the previous 12 months, a further 11 per cent reported drops in salary values of anything from 3 to 300 per cent because of currency fluctuations.

Deliberate reductions in salaries offered at the contract renewal stage — as a result of cost-cutting and the willingness of other nationals to work for lower rates — compounded the Brits' misery.

Even so, 75 per cent thought they were still financially better off working overseas — though not always better off where leisure is concerned. One respondent described life in an isolated Middle East location as resembling "pre-war Harrogate on a Sunday afternoon, only hotter".

For senior management, salaries and benefits continue at commensurate levels — £30,000 to £80,000 a year. The chance that they might one day be in line for such tax-free or low-taxed overseas, and in the meantime be able to enjoy a lifestyle, school fees and so forth unavailable in the UK, keeps most expats on the gravy train. But maintaining their toe-hold is becoming much tougher.

It is not uncommon to find 150 applicants per vacancy and a far more selective attitude from employers. For worthwhile positions, qualifications and comparative seniority are now absolute prerequisites. Those qualified solely through experience are being increasingly beaten by university-educated rivals and a similar obstacle hampers anyone over 45.

Age and attainment apart, those dreaming about an expat life should consider where it will lead them in career terms — "a spell abroad" is no longer a guarantee of promotion — and the effect on their family. Not everyone can cope with culture shock or education breaks.

Care is also needed to ensure that an employer has the reserves to honour commitments, as some governments and local companies have delayed salary payments or defaulted altogether.

As developing countries accelerate their economic growth there will be a need for a range of technology transfer expertise, especially in agriculture and manufacturing. Demand for service industry expertise in banking, finance and tourism will be more widespread.

In spite of it all, there is "always a place for the determined and well-qualified", concludes Expats International.

Nicholas Cole

## Fraud cover optional

Registered insurance brokers could be buying lower levels of professional indemnity cover in the near future.

Under plans to alter the Insurance Brokers Registration Act, due next month, insurance against fraud and dishonesty of directors and partners will no longer have to be bought. The proposals, sponsored by the Insurance Brokers Registration Council (IBRC), have "rough outline" approval from the Department of Trade and Industry.

Given the actions of directors in other financial markets, the timing of the changes could have been more opportune. But the IBRC was forced into action by the insurance market's reluctance to cover its own brokers up to the current legal limits, contained in Section 12 of the Act.

IBRC officials maintain the professional indemnity limits have to take into account what is available in the market. Cover against employee fraud and dishonesty will continue to be offered.

A leading professional indemnity underwriter at Lloyd's, Rodney Stone, said

the changes would present greater risks to the policyholder in the short term — but they could also enhance consumer protection in the long run by encouraging firms to take responsibility for the actions of those in charge.

Mr Stone said companies might take more care when appointing directors, and that as professional indemnity premiums were already high because of "general incompetence" it was unfair to penalize honest brokers further.

The details of the IBRC's proposals are still being finalized. A final draft is to be put to the ministry and then to Parliament. But Henry White-Smith, the IBRC treasurer, confirmed the "meat of the package" was as follows:

- The requirement for insurance against fraud and dishonesty of sole proprietors, partners and directors to be discontinued.
- Insurance on an aggregate basis to be allowed as an alternative to cover against each and every claim.
- The deductible on insurer

can charge a broker on each claim to be increased.

Mr White-Smith also said the nature of the IBRC's grant scheme, to compensate policyholders in the event of broker fraud or negligence, is to be altered. Payments from the scheme are now met by levies on registered brokers but the IBRC intends to "establish some pool of money to meet small claims". The scheme has been used only half a dozen times and is expected to be the IBRC's discretion.

The investment intermediaries' regulatory body, FIMBRA, set its professional indemnity limits for members by the IBRC standards. John Grant, FIMBRA's chief executive, said the outcome of the IBRC's deliberations could affect FIMBRA's limits in the long run. FIMBRA's limits, however, are not controlled by statute and can be more flexible.

FIMBRA will be contributing to the Securities and Investments Board's compensation scheme but this will not be in place until later this year.

Rod Morrison

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FAMILY MONEY/8



# Curbing the Costa crooks

## TIMESHARE

The chequered reputation of the timeshare industry prompted the Government to issue a timely warning this week.

**JOE IRVING** explains

Frequent bouts of bad publicity are not deterring timeshare buyers. More than 85,000 British families have their own holiday homes to go to, from the French Alps to the Cumbrian lakes.

This number, according to the Tourism Advisory Group, a commercial concern linked to the industry, compares with 50,000 a year ago. In two years the figure has almost doubled.

The growth of timesharing, but more particularly the methods used to sell it by a section of the industry, has prompted the Government this week to issue a warning leaflet to buyers.

A spokesman at the Department of Trade and Industry said: "There have been many complaints and reports about people being misled by high-pressure salesmen here and abroad to buy timeshare."

Michael Elwell, the consumer affairs minister, said: "There is nothing wrong with the idea of timesharing. It is fine if you are sure that it is what you want, that you get value for money, and that any contract linked to it is fair."

A timeshare is one or more specified weeks' ownership of a property which can be a villa on the Costa Brava or a flat in an English country house.

Timeshare owners who live of holidaying in the same place can swap with one another internationally.

Timeshares are usually on a development known as a resort. There are more than 40 resorts in England and Wales worth around £250 million.

But timesharing is an international industry, and British developers are active abroad, particularly in such countries as Spain and Portugal, which are popular with the sun-starved Britons.

Some of Britain's top building groups such as Barratt and Wimpey are major timeshare developers and members of the Timeshare Developers Group, which aims to curb the activities of less reputable operators by promoting a code of selling conduct and practice.

agencies, Interval International and Resort Condominiums International, are also members.

The most strongly criticized sales methods have been the button-holing of holiday-makers in Spain, whisking them off to a development site, subjecting them to high-pressure sales techniques and getting them to sign a contract on the spot - and a cheque.

In Britain prospective buyers are tempted by attractive gifts and large discounts provided they sign immediately. Usually the contract is produced after an intensive build-up that may last two or three hours, from which there is little chance of escape without seeming extremely rude.

Pressurized selling of this kind is not illegal. Neither does it mean that the buyer, who goes willingly to the seminar or whatever it may be

per cent are not sure one way or the other.

Brian Wates, managing director of T.A.G., says: "At any one time 10 to 15 per cent of timeshare owners wish to sell, but many want to buy another."

It is when they decide to sell that timeshare owners come up against a brick wall. High-season holiday weeks are very difficult to re-sell, and off-season weeks are almost impossible.

Although a property may increase in value, a timeshare seller faces an almost certain loss. This is because in the first place he helps to finance the company's heavy marketing costs, and when he sells he may get no more than 65 per cent of the developer's current price for similar timeshares. On top of that he can expect a bill for 15 per cent or more from the selling agency.

The big developers such as Barratt offer a resale service at commission rates around that level, but they have a hard enough job with first-hand sales to offer much hope of a quick second-hand sale.

Helping also to ease the resale problem now is the Timeshare Bureau, also run by Mr Wates, who is soon to publish a guide to timesharing. He says that among 4,000 members resales are running at the rate of about 100 a year. He admits: "There are many more sellers than buyers."

Two other snags with timeshares are rising maintenance costs, over which the buyer has no control, and, for overseas properties, increasing air fares. As the Department of Trade and Industry leaflet points out, there may not always be cheap flights.

Its other timely tips reflect government unease at the way some timeshare owners are marketed and can be taken as not just some helpful advice to timeshare buyers but as a warning shot across the industry's bows.

The Government can do without any more of the business aggravations it has been troubled with recently. Mounting pressure is likely to result soon in a statutory cooling-off period for timeshare buyers. Here is the ministry's checklist for buyers:

- Sign nothing unless you are given a reasonable time to change your mind.
- Pay nothing at the first meeting - not even a small deposit.
- Beware of signing that day for a discount. Someone else will sign tomorrow, and so on, for the same bargain.
- Beware of gifts and prizes to encourage you to buy within a deadline.
- Insist on full details in writing, including the type of tenure, Ask for maps, plans and property descriptions attached to the property so that you can take them away for study. If they are refused, just walk out.
- Get a solicitor to look at the contract, and make sure that the timeshare is going to be worth buying.
- Ask about maintenance charges, how increases will be decided and whether you will have a say in the property management.
- See that the resort is affiliated to a reputable exchange organization, and has an owners' association to look after your interests.
- While abroad don't get carried away by the holiday atmosphere and be persuaded to buy something that you wouldn't buy at home.

The leaflet rightly stresses the need to seek professional advice if things do go wrong, and reminds you that you may be bound to a legal contract.

If the contract is signed abroad foreign law may apply and British courts may be unable to help.

Howard 'fair contracts' called, has necessarily been counted.

What he may leave behind when the door closes is a cheque for anything between £2,000 and £10,000 in exchange for a part share in a property that may meet high standards, but which, he did not seriously expect to buy when he went along for the fun and the free carriage clock.

**Owners sell but many buy again**

On the other hand, many timeshare owners who bought with the forethought most sensible people give to any property deal, appear to have no regrets.

According to the Tourism Advisory Group, 90 per cent of British timeshare buyers are satisfied with their purchase, and 85 per cent would buy even with the benefit of hindsight.

Only 5 per cent would not buy if they had a second chance, and the remaining 10

per cent are not sure one way or the other.

Brian Wates, managing director of T.A.G., says: "At any one time 10 to 15 per cent of timeshare owners wish to sell, but many want to buy another."

It is when they decide to sell that timeshare owners come up against a brick wall. High-season holiday weeks are very difficult to re-sell, and off-season weeks are almost impossible.

Although a property may increase in value, a timeshare seller faces an almost certain loss. This is because in the first place he helps to finance the company's heavy marketing costs, and when he sells he may get no more than 65 per cent of the developer's current price for similar timeshares. On top of that he can expect a bill for 15 per cent or more from the selling agency.

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Subscription to the PEP 87 plan can be made up to and including 31st December 1987 only. You may terminate your plan at any time; but if you do so before 1st January 1989 you will lose the PEP tax advantages. On termination you will receive the full bid value of the units at that time.

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**HOW TO INVEST**

There is a fixed subscription of £420. This will be invested for you in the relevant number of units, rounded up to the nearest whole unit. Until 15th February 1987 units are at the fixed price of 50p.

You subscribe to the plan by completing the application form below and sending it to us with your cheque. You may not invest if you have already subscribed to another PEP in 1987. If you do invest you may not subscribe to any other PEP until 1988.

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vestment in the plan carries risks as well as the chance of reward and that the price of units and the income reinvested on your behalf can go down as well as up. If you are in any doubt about this offer you should consult your professional adviser.

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I declare that the information above is true and correct, according to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I agree to indemnify you without delay of any change in my circumstances as set out in this form.

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FRAMLINGTON PEP 87

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## FAMILY MONEY/9

### The benefit with a sting in the tail

The Inland Revenue's tax rules contain various quirks, some of which can work to your advantage, others not. Into this latter category falls what is known as the "age allowance trap". LIZ WALKINGTON explains

Age allowance itself is a benefit for which you can qualify if you or your spouse will be 65 or more at the end of the tax year. It takes the form of additional personal tax relief, that is, income on which you pay no tax.

For a single person, the allowance for the 1986-87 tax year is £2,850, instead of £2,335. For a married man, it is £4,505 instead of £3,655.

However, the rules contain an unpleasant trap for the unwary. The benefit starts to be clawed back if your earnings exceed a certain amount. For the current tax year, this trigger point is £9,400. For every £3 you earn over this amount, the age allowance will be reduced by £2.

What this means in practice is that you will have to pay tax both on the £3 of income, and on £2 that would otherwise have been tax-free, making £5 in all.

At the basic rate of 29p in the pound, this gives a tax bill of £1.45 for every £3 earned.

up to a total income of £10,675, at which point the whole age allowance is lost.

The effects can be seen from the table. A couple with an income of exactly £9,400 receive the full age allowance, leaving them with a tax liability of £1,419.55.

If they earn just £150 more, the age allowance is reduced by £100, and the tax due goes up to £1,492.05, an increase of £72.50. This amounts to a marginal tax rate of nearly 50 per cent, which would normally be payable only on taxable income of more than £25,400.

The upper limit on earnings before the age allowance is lost is based on gross income. So if you have interest from a bank or building society account, for example, it will be the gross equivalent that will count towards the maximum, even though it is actually paid net of tax.

In this case, you would not have to pay any further tax on the interest itself, so long as you are liable only at the basic rate. But if it took you over the £9,400 limit, you would have to pay extra tax on the amount lost from age allowance.

As with drinking and driving, the penalties for exceeding the limit are clearly quite severe. One solution, if you are likely to fall into this trap, is to opt for investments that produce capital gains rather

than income. Even if capital gains tax were to be incurred, it would, at 30 per cent, prove less expensive than the effective income tax rate of almost 50 per cent.

If you need an income, this can be achieved by cashing in investments at regular intervals. National Savings certificates are well-suited to this purpose, particularly as capital gains are tax-free.

The certificates pay no interest and are designed to be held for a number of years, usually five, after which they can be cashed for a higher value than the purchase price. In fact, the redemption value increases every year, though the maximum return can be obtained only at the end of the full term.

#### Beware taking more than the allowance

By cashing in a few every year, it is possible to turn this capital appreciation into an income, while the remaining certificates can be redeemed at the end of the period to return your original investment. In this way, there is no tax liability, and no loss of age allowance, because the returns count as capital gains and not income.

Another possibility is an investment bond, from which you can make withdrawals to provide you with an income. So long as you take no more than 5 per cent of your initial investment every year, there will be no tax due, as the Revenue treats it as cashing in part of the policy.

Beware, however, of taking more than the 5 per cent allowance, because this will set off another trap. Usually, any excess amount would be liable only to higher rate tax, as the basic rate is already deducted before payment. For age allowance purposes, however, any withdrawal above the 5 per cent will count towards the income limit, so if it takes you over the £9,400, you will start to lose allowance and incur the extra tax.

Another problem can arise when you come to cash in your bond. Any return that is deemed to be "profit", over and above the sum you in-

#### ILLUSTRATION OF THE AGE ALLOWANCE TRAP

Income	£9,400
Less full age allowance	£4,505
Taxable income	£4,895
Tax due at 29%	£1,419.55
Income	£9,550
Less reduced age allowance	£5,145
Taxable income	£4,405
Tax due at 29%	£1,277.45

vested, will be treated as income under the age allowance rules.

Moreover, while investment losses can be set off against profits for capital gains tax purposes, this is not permitted with age allowance: if you make a loss on your bond, you cannot use it to offset any excess income.

Guaranteed bonds are sometimes recommended to elderly investors, as being a way of using capital to generate income. For the most part, these will not avoid the age allowance trap, but there are certain types which can at least mitigate the effects.

An example is a five-year bond on offer from Cannon Assurance, which is designed as a series of single premium endowment plans. The initial investment is split among six policies, of which the first five provide the annual income, while the sixth returns the capital at the end of the term.

By law, such policies must provide some return, but in the case of the first five, this is kept to a nominal £1. The remainder of the payments, which amount to 9 per cent at current rates, represent the value of the policies, hence only the £1 counts as income for age allowance purposes.

At the end of the fifth year, when the capital is returned, the portion deemed to be profit will count as income in that year, and may then give rise to a tax liability. However, the arrangement means that you can keep your age allowance intact at least for four years out of five.

Alternatively, you can choose to purchase cashing in the policy. This would be helpful if you were, that year, a higher-rate taxpayer, or had already reached your income limit. The money will count as income at current deposit rates, and the policy can be redeemed as a loan from the Revenue, so that the tax liability is lost or even removed altogether.



# BBC-THE PLOT THICKENS

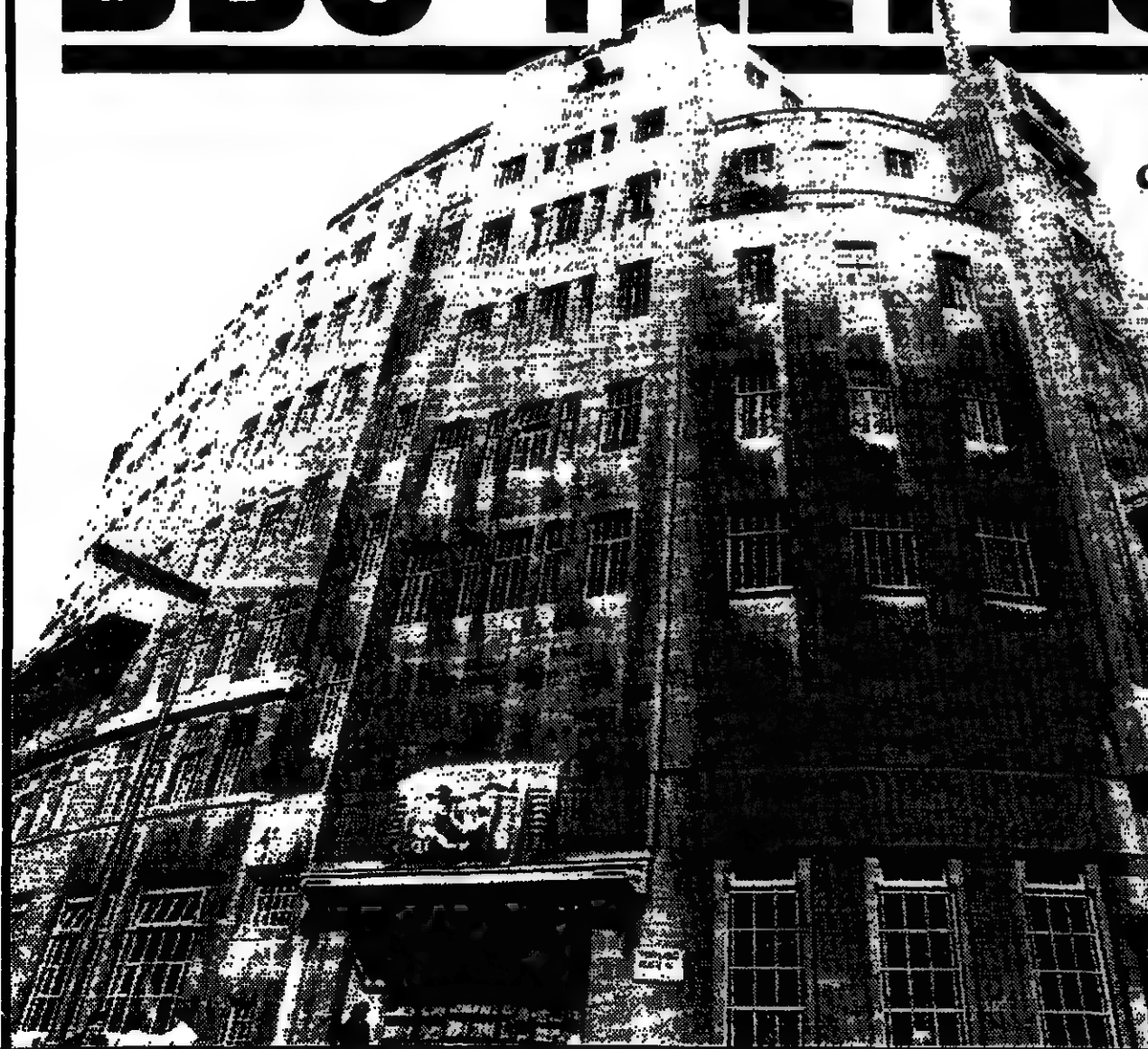
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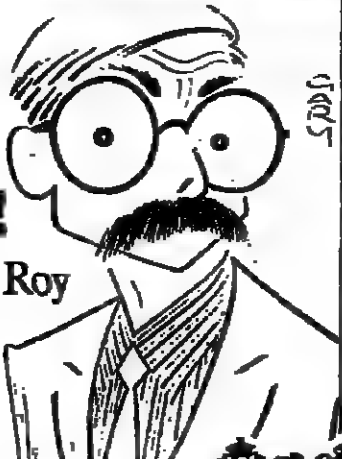
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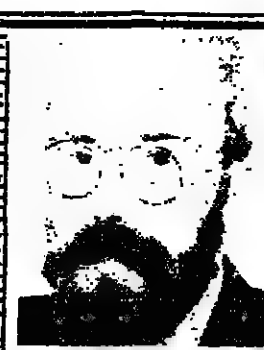
**THE SUNDAY TIMES**  
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## FAMILY MONEY/10



Grant Cochran



Robin Angus

## Four points for the investment trusts

The eagerly awaited and characteristically entertaining investment trust review from Wood Mackenzie is out today.

It covers 1986 but WM's Robin Angus says he has a clear message for 1987. Amid all the other current uncertainties, investment trusts are an attractive each-way bet for investors, even at their present historically high levels. WM's case in favour of investment trusts is based on four points.

**FIRST**, says the firm, there is a new sense of purpose among trust managers. WM detects a new realism and aggression. Most boards and managers are under no illusions these days about their job security. They are aware that they are under scrutiny and are expected to get on or get out.

**SECONDLY**, this is feeding through into performance. WM says 1986's asset performance figures show that managers' efforts are bearing fruit. This, it says, is evident not just in the figures for the industry as a whole but also in the figures for individual trusts — notably the larger diversified funds. Part of the reason for this, it is argued, is that more time and care is being spent on strategy (should we hedge all our US dollars into yen?) rather than tactics (should we put 0.25 per cent of funds into XYZ Corporation?).

**THIRDLY**, there is an intensification of corporate activity. Even if managers wanted to slacken off, the market would not let them. For one thing, there's £3.5 billion of buried treasure in the sector in the form of the discount.

**FINALLY**, new buyers are coming in — not just the institutions but also private investors.

Earlier this month, Edinburgh-based Dunedin Fund Managers became the latest group actively to woo private investors into investment trusts, in doing so it has added its name to a growing list of

investment trust managers who are determined not to be held back by the sector's inherent marketing constraints.

Dunedin's chairman Grant Cochran has set out his stall by offering a savings plan that shareholders can use on either a regular (minimum £30 a month) or a lump sum (minimum £250) basis.

The mechanics are simple enough. Savers deal directly with Dunedin or the Bank of Scotland which administer the plan, and so don't need to use a stockbroker. Shares purchased are registered in the name of the bank's nominee company. There are no front-end charges and no penalties for savers wanting to leave the plan.

Through the Dunedin plan, savers have a choice of four investment trusts that aim to provide either capital growth or income or a mixture of the two.

Similarly, Scottish Investment Trust is proposing to introduce a savings scheme, and among other investment trust managers offering savings schemes to private investors are Foreign & Colonial, Globe and Robert Fleming.

One of the prime attractions of regular savings in investment trust schemes is what the industry jargon describes as pound cost averaging. Put simply, it means that you get more shares when the price is low and fewer when it is high. Jolly useful it is too.

Savings schemes are by no means the only method employed by investment trust managers to win over private investors.

Back in 1984, Scottish American, in conjunction with Sun Life Assurance, launched a self-employed pension plan linked to an investment trust. Others have since followed.

There have also been single and regular premium insurance plans marketed by life companies and linked to investment trusts. Among the life companies active in this field are Crown Financial Management, Commercial Union and Equitable Life.

It would be dangerous to state categorically which schemes represent a good deal for the investor. This is because good results tend to follow good equity markets rather than exceptional investment managers.

The validity of this general rule can be seen in the investment trust performance figures for the year 1986 when top places were dominated by Far Eastern-investing trusts. For 1987 this is unlikely to change and investment specialists are plumping more for Europe, including the UK, and North America.

What this does illustrate is that whichever route you choose to put money into an investment trust, you are embarking on something quite different from a building society account or National Savings. The need to keep an active eye on risk investments is paramount.

### The last word is political

That said, the effort of getting to grips with investment trusts is well worthwhile.

Back to Wood Mackenzie for the last word, and it's a political one. WM reckons that investment trusts are a good each-way bet on the result of a general election. If the Conservatives win, the sector as a whole should benefit. If they lose, to be succeeded either by a straight Labour government or by some kind of centre-left coalition, then investment trusts will also offer a degree of protection. As far as overseas investment in an adverse political climate is concerned, investment trusts know the ropes and also have the flexibility to devise new ways of maintaining their geographical spread.

Put another way, it could be argued that UK share prices will rise, whoever wins the election. If the Conservatives win, share prices will rise for the right reasons, says WM. If Labour wins, share prices will rise for the wrong reasons.

Peter Gartland

## Cost of poor health

If you are in good health the chances are that you will get life insurance at standard rates. If you have a poor medical history you are likely to pay more. Alternatively, but rarely, an exclusion clause might be added so that payment would not be made for death resulting from a particular cause.

In extreme cases the life company might turn you down completely. This is life at the really sharp end.

When difficult cases arise a life office might seek help from specialist reinsurance companies. These are the companies that insure the insurance companies. They see a wider range of so-called impaired lives and so can make a more accurate assessment of the extra mortality risks involved.

Two decades ago the largest reinsurance company in Britain set up a data-collection system on an experimental basis to combine the experience of groups of people with similar serious disorders.

This pooling extended the range of risks which could be underwritten. It is now possible to offer terms for most adverse medical features, though premiums may be heavy.

Extra body weight affects life expectancy. Underwriters assess the weight of a person in relation to the normal or desirable weights for someone of the same sex, height and age. If a person's weight is excessive it will be regarded as an increased risk.

This assessment is often quoted as a number of additional years. Ten years would mean that a 50-year-old was treated as being 60 for premium calculation purposes.

Alternatively, the rating might be expressed as an extra percentage. Thus, according to one insurance company, Scottish Mutual, 200 per cent

### History of heart disease ignored

would mean that the risk of the person dying during the next year was three times normal.

A 6ft man aged 40 usually weighs 12 to 13 stone. With double that weight, but otherwise healthy, he might be rated at plus 200 per cent and treated as a 50-year-old. So it is important for more reasons than that of improved appearance.

Family history is a good indicator of life expectancy although underwriters seldom impose a loading for this alone. An extreme example of how family history affects life expectancy is seen in Huntington's chorea, a degenerative disorder of the nervous system. The children of an affected parent can be expected to be clear of any symptoms until the age of 30 or later.

After that, half of them will develop the disease which normally leads to death within 15 years. A healthy 25-year-old with an affected parent might be given an age rating of 30 or quoted an extra premium of £7 a year for every £1,000 of life cover. Heavy extra premiums are usually quoted in this way rather than as an age rating.

If a potential victim remains clear of the disease until 55, the special risk has passed. Life cover is then available at normal terms. If the disease is present, the underwriters are unlikely to be able to offer terms at all. If they did, the

risk would be very high and the premiums likely to be prohibitive.

Cystic fibrosis, although also an inherited disease, takes a different pattern because its diagnosis usually comes early in childhood. If no respiratory problems are present cover may be available but only until middle age and at ratings of plus 250 per cent or more. For more severe risks, cover is likely to be declined.

A family history of heart disease is usually ignored by life companies unless other unfavourable signs, such as high blood pressure, are present. Heart disease itself includes such a variety of illnesses that underwriters will want full information before quoting an extra premium.

During the five years following an isolated heart attack, and provided the sufferer has been at work for at least six months, cover is sometimes possible. The cost is heavy with ratings up to 10 years and an extra premium of £15 a year for the balance of the five years.

When there are further complications, such as an inability to return to full normal work, the risk might well be uninsurable.

Aids presents life offices with two big problems. First, they do not know how quickly the disease will spread or the number of deaths it will cause. Estimates are based on present knowledge and no one can accurately predict how much longer it will be before medical science controls or cures it.

Secondly, information about the disease on which to base a decision for life cover is hard to come by. It is not, yet, socially acceptable to ask: "Have you or your partner had sex with more than one person during the past 30 years?" In any event, how can a risk assessor be sure of getting a truthful answer? The compromise solution now being adopted by many life companies is to ask whether the proposer has had a medical advice, treatment or a blood test in connection with Aids or an Aids-related condition. A "yes" answer usually means a further blood test and the possibility of life cover being unavailable.

Jennie Hawthorne

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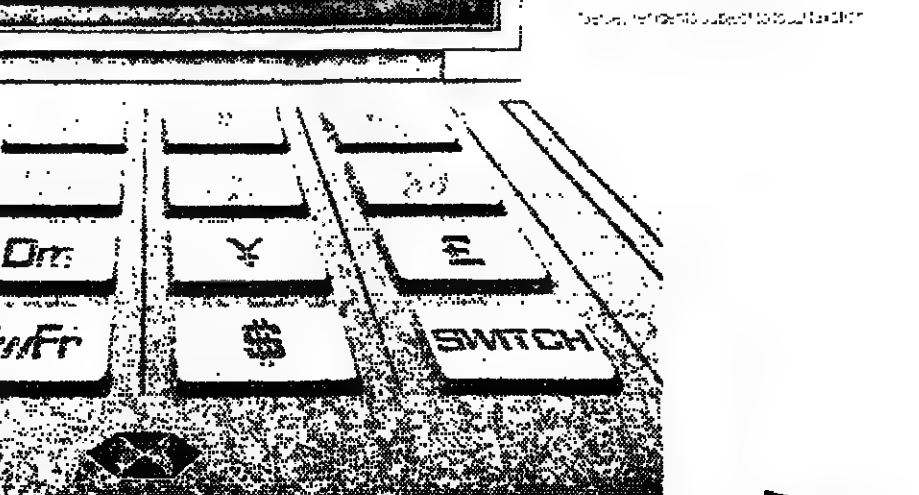
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## FAMILY MONEY/12

# The perk on the road that is still good value

Is it worth having a company car, and how can I save on the tax?

DANBY BLOCH and RAYMOND GODFREY advise

Can Britain's favourite fringe benefit be bad value for money?

Almost certainly not for most employees, but it will rather depend on the circumstances and from the start of the new tax year on April 6 there will be some important changes.

A special scaled charge is made for the alleged benefit of having a car provided by your employer, if it is used for any private motoring.

The charge is made by having the appropriate amount of income treated as if it had been added to the employee's salary. The mechanism for doing this is normally a reduction in the individual tax code.

The tax charge is based on four main factors — the car's original retail value, its engine size, how much it is used for business purposes, and its age at the end of the tax year.

The scale charges for 1986-87 and 1987-88 are set out in the accompanying table.

For example, you have a car which was valued at £15,000 when it was new and has an engine capacity of 2,000 cc. It is used for 3,000 business miles during the year and is less than 18 months old on April 5, 1987.

The tax charge will be based on having an extra income of £900 during the current tax year 1986-87. At a tax rate of say 30 per cent, you would pay tax of £270. If you were a basic rate taxpayer, the tax charge at 29 per cent would be £261.

The Chancellor has increased the scale charges every year — generally at a rate rather better than the actual increase in motoring costs. The purpose has been gradually to bring the amount of the charge more into line with the costs of motoring and the real benefit of having a company car.

For example, the estimated average motoring costs of a car with an engine capacity of 1301-2000 cc was £2,452 in 1983, excluding the cost of petrol. This is obviously a good deal more than the £900 benefit charge.

After April 5, 1987, the scale charge will be rather significantly changed in order to bring the scale of engine sizes more into line with European standards.

For some people with company cars the increase in the scale charge will be much steeper than usual because they will be promoted into a higher category of company car for tax purposes. So their tax bill will rise.

In the tax year 1987-88, if you have a 1000 cc company car, the benefit charge will go up by £75 from £450 to £525, at 29 per cent basic rate tax, the increase in the tax bill would be £21.75. If you have a 1500 cc car, the charge will rise £125 from £575 to £700, at 29 per cent the extra tax charge would be £36.25. If you have a 2.3 litre car, the charge will

rise £200 from £900 to £1,100, and at 29 per cent the increased tax bill would be £318.

But there are also some significant winners. Many motorists in the next tax year will see their benefit charge fall because they have been shifted down into a lower charging bracket after April 5.

For example, the owner of a 1350 cc car will see his or her scale charge reduced by £50 to £525 — a small windfall of £14.50 tax saved at the basic rate of 29 per cent.

But the real winners would be those many company car drivers with vehicles whose cubic capacity just squeezes under two litres. For example, if you had an 1800 cc or a

worth less than £19,250 and registered in March 1984 will involve a scale charge of £725 rather than £1,100 in 1987-88. Remember we are talking here about the age of the car at the end of the year of assessment, in this case, April 5, 1988.

It is well worth asking what month your car was registered, and if you are prepared to keep your car for up to four years, it will be more attractive to have a vehicle registered in February or March than, say, late April or May or June.

Keep a record of your mileage. If you do not complete at least 2,500 business miles in the tax year, you will be subject to a scale charge of one and a half times the normal rate. If you drive nearly 18,000 business miles, you should try to achieve that threshold because it will halve the scale charge.

Plan the periods when you do not need the car. If the car is not available for your use for a continuous period of 30 days or more, you can normally obtain a proportionate reduction in the charge. However, the car must have been withdrawn from your use and be unavailable. This does not mean that the car can be left in your garage while you are away on an extended holiday; so special arrangements must be made to return the car to your employer.

Choose your second company car carefully. If you are lucky enough to have two company cars at the same time, then one of them will automatically be taxed at one and a half times scale value — irrespective of the number of business miles. The car taxed at the normal scale will be the vehicle that you drive for the greater number of business miles, so long as you achieve the minimum of 2,500 business miles.

Make sure that the smaller and cheaper car is the one that is used on the one and a half times scale.

Free private petrol is much less worthwhile. If your employer provides any free fuel for private motoring, the separate scale for this petrol will apply in full. If you want to avoid this scale charge, make sure that you reimburse your employer for any private petrol whatsoever. Since the price of petrol came down, the scale charge has become particularly penal.

A company car may not be worthwhile. In certain circumstances, if you have a car that is used virtually for business only, and on which you clock up a substantial business mileage, it may be worth owning a car yourself and claiming on the mileage allowance from your employer.

The Revenue will allow you to claim capital allowances for the capital cost of the business car and you will also get relief for the running expenses in the proportion that you use the car for business purposes. This will make your personal accounting and book-keeping rather more complicated, but it could be worthwhile.

Generally it makes sense to have a large motor car

But remember that travel from home to work virtually never counts as business travel for an employee.

Choose the engine size carefully. In terms of value for money, it generally makes sense to have as large and expensive a car as possible within the scale charging bracket.

Buy an older car. If you can cope with the social opprobrium of having an A-registered car or even an older one, then you can save yourself an appreciable amount of tax. Largely, this is because cars that are four years old or more are subject to a lower scale charge.

For example, a 3-litre car

Age of car on April 5	CAR BENEFIT ASSESSMENT 1986-87		CAR FUEL ASSESSMENT 1986-87		CAR BENEFIT ASSESSMENT 1987-88		CAR FUEL ASSESSMENT 1987-88	
	Under 4 years	4 years & over	Under 4 years	4 years & over	Under 4 years	4 years & over	Under 4 years	4 years & over
Value	Up to £19,250	All cars	Up to £19,250	All cars	Up to £19,250	All cars	Up to £19,250	All cars
Up to 1300cc	£450	£300	£450	£300	£525	£350	£480	£300
1301-1800cc	£575	£380	£575	£380	£700	£470	£600	£350
1801cc and over	£900	£500	£900	£500	£1,100	£725	£900	£500
Value	£19,251-£29,000		£19,251-£29,000		£21,450	£970		
All cars	£1,320	£875	All cars		£2,300	£1,530		
Value	Over £29,000		Over £29,000					
All cars	£2,100	£1,400	All cars					

Car benefit: 1% scale where business miles 2,500 or less and for second cars. Car benefit and fuel scale: 1% scale where business miles 2,500 or less and for second cars.

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Company cars: a great boon, but the pitfalls need watching

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## FAMILY MONEY/13

# Bitter harvest follows the farmer's legacy

## WILLS

A Somerset farmer, Derek Winstone, is embroiled in a family dispute over a will which has cost him about £20,000, and nine years of legal wrangling, which is still far from over.

The 38-year-old farmer says the tale is a cautionary one, highlighting the problems that can arise over the inheritance of an estate. It also raises questions about whom one should choose to administer an estate — a bank's executors and trustee department, professionals such as solicitors and accountants or the Public Trust Office.

Mr Winstone, a tenant of Parson's Farm, Stanton Wick, was in partnership with his father Edwin on 220 acres of partly owned, partly tenanted land. His father died in 1977 and under the will about half the valuation of the business, including the freehold of 62-acre Broadoak Farm, was to go into trust to provide income for Edwin's wife.

There was also a specific provision that Derek, as the son, could buy his father's half of the business at half the value fixed by the trustees of Lloyds Bank, the only benefit he would have received under the terms of the will.

Derek wanted to go on farming and decided to buy half the estate. But his mother contested the will and its execution was frozen as a result. Meanwhile, the estate was administered by the financial services and trust division of Lloyds Bank in Bristol and Derek continued as the tenant of the let land.

But while legal proceedings over the will worked their way slowly through the courts, compound interest was accumulating on an overdraft left by the father and frozen as part of the estate.

Mr Winstone's case is that, as trustees, the bank should have taken action to wipe out the overdraft, that is, selling some of his father's shareholdings. "From that day on, the trustees sat back and did nothing," said Mr Winstone.

But the bank points out that where a will is contested, it is unable at law to take any action.

Either way, the dispute over the will finally came to court in 1984. Mr Winstone was declared liable to pay his mother £40,000 and to pay off the overdraft, which by this time stood at £55,000. The total for which he was liable, with legal costs, was £98,000.

Mr Winstone was appalled. He asks why, if he was liable for the overdraft, did the bank not draw his attention to the need to reduce it over the seven years? It may be that he was naive not to inquire what was happening to the overdraft. But he can reasonably

## Cash raised against the unsold plots

query why he was not notified by means of statements or letters of any accumulating interest payable.

The nub of his case, which has been taken up and publicized in *Farming News*, is that the land was never his, because the terms of the will were being contested. Alternatively, if the land was his and he was liable for the overdraft, why was he not informed about the need to reduce it during the seven years?

As a result of the court's decision, he was forced to agree to the executors selling the 62-acre Broadoak Farm. Only one of three lots eventually sold and there was still about £18,500 to find to clear legal costs. Mr Winstone



Over the farm gate: Derek Winstone says his land has brought him nothing but trouble

hoped that that would be the end of it.

He raised the money against the unsold plots of land and wrote to Lloyds, offering to pay in full on receipt of the deeds for the remaining land. But another problem arose.

There was an unspecified sum of capital gains tax, possibly £20,000, on the land that had been sold, and for which the bank said he was liable. But Mr Winstone says: "It was never my land. That was why I was having to buy it under the terms of the will."

The bank disagrees. In a letter to Mr Winstone it says the land did belong to him and that the bank "simply joined in as trustee of the joint conveyance in place of your father."

Mr Winstone has now been obliged to sign away the 30 acres of unsold land to settle the outstanding debt. He intends, however, to sue the trustees, and the National Farmers' Union has agreed to take up his case.

The bank says that as the whole affair had been the subject of a court order, it is not able to comment. Powerless the bank's trustees may have been, but Mr Winstone is left with an overwhelming grievance that things were not handled quite as they might have been.

He says: "I accept that, because the will was contested, that may cost my father's estate money. But why should it cost me money? As a result, I'm now paying interest

of some £10,000 on the legal costs of it all, which is an unproductive investment. At least if I'd borrowed the money to buy cows or equipment it would show a return."

He now has no choice, he says, but to sue. "Otherwise I'll go bankrupt," he says, "and I'd sooner pack up than that. At least at the moment I can still look out other people in the face."

The affair demonstrates how costly such administrative muddles can become. The Consumers' Association advises people to think care-

## 'No substitute for the right friend'

fully when appointing executors of a will. In its book *Wills and Probate*, it says banks may be appointed "if there is no one individual you feel you could entrust this task to, maybe because there are family arguments".

But the disadvantages, it says, are that a bank charges considerably more to administer an estate than do professional trustees such as accountants and solicitors. They also do not have the personal attention and knowledge of the family that an individual personally appointed would usually have.

"Banks," it says, "may employ competent and sympathetic staff, but they are no substitute for the right friend or relation."

Sometimes a bank is appointed joint executor with a member of the family or close friend. When the time comes to administer the estate, it may be that the individual executor feels quite able to do so without the bank's help — but it is very unlikely the bank would agree to renounce, the book says.

One advantage, however, is that if there is likely to be a trust set up by the will that could go on for a long time, say for several generations, there would not be the need to change trustees.

A better alternative, the Consumers' Association recommends, is probably to appoint individuals to be executors, such as a solicitor or accountant, together with a family friend.

A third option is the Public Trust Office, which came into being this month and has taken on the work of the former Public Trustee Office.

The Public Trust Office aims to administer cases with the minimum of formality so that costs are as low as possible and has resources to handle on a large scale the management and investment of a wide range of privately owned assets. These would include those of mental patients and others under a mental disability where there is no other person to act.

Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

## Law Report January 31 1987

# Judge's discretion to sever counts of indictment

Regina v Phillips  
Before Lord Justice Woolf, Mr Justice Webster and Mr Justice Tucker

[Judgment January 30]

A defendant was not entitled as of right to have property joined counts of an indictment severed on the ground that he wished to give evidence on one count which might incriminate him on another.

The trial judge had a discretion under section 5(3) of the Indictments Act 1915, to sever the counts in the interests of justice and in exercising that discretion, he was entitled to take into account the administrative inconvenience of ordering separate trials as well as the circumstances of the defendant.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) upheld the decision of Judge Russell Wick at Maidstone Crown Court not to sever two counts (conspiracy and burglary) on which the defendant, Daniel Mark Phillips, had been indicted, but allowed the defendant's appeal against his conviction on February 6, 1986 on the conspiracy count because certain admissions which had been left to the jury should have been treated as inadmissible.

The defendant was acquitted on the burglary count on a retrial.

Mr James Turner, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the defendant; Mr Keith Simpson for the Crown.

**LORD JUSTICE WOOLF**, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that the defendant wished to give evidence on the burglary count but not on the conspiracy count.

Counsel for the defendant contended that the counts had been properly joined but submitted that the court's discretion to sever in the interests of justice could only be exercised in favour of severance where the defendant would be required to make an election against his wishes to give or not to give evidence on an individual offence.

He further submitted that the administrative inconvenience and expense of two trials could not be allowed to override the right of a defendant to give

evidence or keep silent in relation to only one offence.

Section 1 of the Criminal Evidence Act 1986 provided: "Every person charged with an offence shall be a competent witness for the defence... Provided... (a) a person so charged shall not be called as a witness... except upon his own application... (e) a person charged... being a witness... may be asked any question in cross-examination not withstanding that it would tend to incriminate him... as to the offence charged... (f) a person charged called as a witness... shall not be asked and if asked shall not be required to answer any question tending to show that he has committed... any offence other than that with which he is then charged..."

Although the 1986 Act referred to "offences" in the singular, it had to be treated as applying to "offences" in the plural and regarded as giving the defendant a choice of giving evidence or not in relation to all the offences at the trial on which he was properly indicted.

Ordinarily, if offences were properly joined, a defendant did not have the right to have the indictment severed because he might wish to give evidence in respect of one count and not another.

It would be a matter for the discretion of the trial judge whether or not to sever the indictment.

In considering whether to sever, section 5(3) of the Indictments Act 1915 had to be borne in mind.

In exercising his discretion, the judge could take into account the practical consequences of ordering separate trials including the expense and inconvenience to witnesses as well as the circumstances of the defendant.

While the right of a defendant to give evidence had to be recognized and weight could be given to his desires, it had to be borne in mind that he could change his mind about giving evidence and applications to sever might be made for tactical reasons.

The court did not dissent from the judge's decision not to sever. The counts were closely interrelated and it was desirable that they be dealt with together. The conviction was also chal-

lenged on the ground that the judge had failed to direct the jury that each member of the jury had to be satisfied that the defendant conspired with the same person.

The conspiracy count alleged that the defendant conspired with other defendants who pleaded guilty and with persons unknown.

There was no suggestion that there was ever more than one conspiracy and in such a case there was no need to direct the jury that they had to be unanimously agreed as to the identity of one other individual besides the defendant who was a party to the conspiracy.

It would be open to the jury to conclude that there was a conspiracy to which the defendant was a party without making any finding as to the identity of any individual conspirators. The precise identity or number of conspirators would not be material provided the jury were satisfied that there was a conspiracy consisting of at least two persons one of whom was the defendant.

In *R v Brown* (1984) 79 Cr App R 115 the Court of Appeal held that, on a charge of fraudulently inducing investments by making misleading statements, the jury had to be unanimously agreed that the same misleading statement had been made.

*Brown* was binding on the court but did not apply in the present case. The misleading statement was an essential element of the offence and the identity of the defendant's co-conspirator was not.

The court adopted the approach of Lord Justice Neill in *R v Moore* (unreported, February 28, 1986, CA) (currently subject of an appeal to the House of Lords) that a *Brown* direction would only be necessary in comparatively rare cases where there was a risk of disagreement between members of the jury as to whether a particular ingredient of the offence had been proved.

The conviction for conspiracy would be quashed on the ground that evidence of confessions obtained as a result of inducements should have been treated as inadmissible.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Maidstone.

# Solicitor negligence claim no bar to Law Society inquiry

Lipman Bray (a firm) v Hillhouse and Another  
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice May

[Judgment January 30]

A claim was not "doomed to failure" simply because that party's legal adviser had earlier indicated that it would not be pursued, although it became more difficult to pursue thereafter.

The Court of Appeal so observed, allowing an appeal by the defendants, Robert Francis Hillhouse and Wendy Jacob, from an order of Judge Phelan at Bloomsbury Crown Court on June 11, 1986, striking out their defence and counterclaim in an action by the plaintiffs, Lipman Bray, a firm of solicitors.

Mr Richard Slowe, who did not appear below, for the defendants; Mr Edward Cousins for the plaintiffs.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the plaintiffs, formerly known as Redstone, Kirschel & Bray, having acted as solicitors for the defendants in the purchase of a house at 68 Portland Road, Notting Hill, London, had begun proceedings in the county court to recover from them unpaid fees amounting to £358.

The solicitor in charge had been Mr Kirschel.

The defendants by way of defence and counterclaim alleged negligence by the plaintiffs in two respects.

First, a failure to stamp the conveyance and to pay Land Registry charges even though specifically put in funds in order to do so, thus attracting a penalty for late payment on the stamp.

Second, a failure to make

proper inquiries as to the rights of the tenants of the property to exclusive use of the garden.

Mr William Stockler, the solicitor currently acting for the defendants, also submitted a complaint about the plaintiffs to the Law Society but the Law Society declined to investigate the matter until the negligence claim had been disposed of.

It had been the customary procedure at that time, but his Lordship believed that the current approach would have been more refined.

It could not be right merely because there was a claim in negligence to refuse to investigate a matter of alleged misconduct.

Only if there was a risk that the investigation of misconduct in some way might muddy the waters of justice should the solicitors' complaints bureau decline to investigate.

On May 3, 1984, Mr Stockler wrote to the Law Society saying that his clients had decided not to take action against the plaintiffs because they had mitigated their loss entirely, apparently on the basis that after litigation against the two tenants in the house, the defendants had been able to buy them out.

If there had been negligence, his Lordship could not see how the compromise of that action could mitigate the defendants' loss, which one would have thought in the circumstances would have been substantial.

The Law Society thereafter investigated and found proved the allegations of misconduct, and Mr Kirschel was reprimanded.

The plaintiffs then pursued their claim for the fees and, in view of the letter of May 3,

applied to strike out the defence and counterclaim.

The judge reviewed the documents and concluded that the defence and counterclaim were "doomed to failure" as a result of the letter of May 3.

His Lordship could not see how the fact that one party changed his mind about whether he had a claim after a claim was pursued against him by the other could mean that the first party's claim had to fail, although it might not be so easy to pursue it.

It was particularly unfortunate that a matter involving such relatively small sums had been dealt with summarily in such a way that it had to come to the Court of Appeal and would, on the appeal being allowed, then have to go somewhere else.

One further matter had to be mentioned: the plaintiffs in rage and fury had written to Mr Stockler threatening to make him personally liable for costs if the counterclaim were pursued. They did not in the end make such an application.

Although the ruling had not been made at that time, his Lordship's court had recently stated (*Orchard v South Eastern Electricity Board* (The Times November 14, 1986; 1987 2 WLR 102)) that threats of that sort, designed to make solicitors withhold their support for their clients, were quite improper.

His Lordship hoped that if such threats had ever been commonly made, they would certainly not be made in future.

Lord Justice May delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Lipman Bray; William Stockler & Co.

# Alternative statutory theft offence implied in another subsection

Regina v Whiting  
Before Lord Justice Croom-Johnson, Mr Justice Peter Pain and Mr Justice Roush

[Judgment January 26]

A jury was entitled to find a defendant guilty of an offence of entering as a trespasser with intent to steal, contrary to section 9(1)(a) of the Theft Act 1968, as an alternative to an offence of having entered as a trespasser and stolen therein, contrary to section 9(1)(b), since a charge under section 9(1)(b) impliedly included an allegation under section 9(1)(a).

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) so held in dismissing an appeal by Paul Anthony Whiting against his conviction by Lewes Crown Court on July 2, 1985 of an offence under section 9(1)(a) of the 1968 Act.

The Criminal Law Act 1967 provides, by section 6: "... (3) Where, on a person's trial on indictment for any offence except treason or murder, the jury find him not guilty of the offence specifically charged in the indictment, but the allegations in the indictment amount to or include (expressly or by implication) an allegation of another offence falling within the jurisdiction of the court of trial, the jury may find him guilty of that other offence or of any offence of which he could be found guilty on an indictment specifically charging that other offence."

Mr Jonathan Cowen, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the defendant; Mr Philip Noble for the prosecutor.

**LORD JUSTICE CROOM-**

JOHNSON said that the issue raised by the appeal was whether a verdict under section 9(1)(a) was an alternative to one under section 9(1)(b). The Court of Appeal in *R v Hollis* (1971) Crim LR 525 had said that it was not. The question was whether that case was still good law.

The jury in the instant case had acquitted the defendant of the offence under section 9(1)(b) but had convicted under section 9(1)(a). They must have decided that the defendant had entered the building with intent to steal, but were not satisfied that he had succeeded in stealing.

In *R v Springfield* (1969) 53 Cr App R 608 the question before the Court of Appeal was whether common assault was an alternative to robbery within section 6(3) of the Criminal Law Act 1967. The court held that as the actual use of violence was not a necessary ingredient of robbery, it was not a possible alternative verdict.

In *R v Wilson* (Clarence) (1984) AC 242 Lord Roskill in the House of Lords rejected the test in *Springfield* that the alternative should be a "necessary step" or "essential ingredient" of the offence charged, and the House of Lords overruled that case.

*Hollis* was not cited before the House of Lords, but since it had proceeded on the same basis as *Springfield* it had to be wrong and treated as no longer being the law.

under section 9(1)(b) impliedly include an entry with the relevant intent?

In *Wilson*, Lord Roskill said at pp260-261: "The critical question is, therefore, whether it being accepted that a charge of inflicting grievous bodily harm contrary to section 20 may not necessarily involve an allegation of assault, but may nonetheless involve such a charge may not necessarily do so, I do not see why on a fair reading of section 6(3) these allegations do not at least impliedly include 'inflicting by assault'."

Although section 9(1)(b) did not require that the entry as a trespasser, which resulted in stealing, should be with the intent to steal at the time of entry, yet in many, if not the vast majority, of cases that was the position.

One could therefore transpose the wording of the passage in the speech of Lord Roskill, applying that reasoning, there was no reason why on a fair reading of section 6(3) of the 1967 Act the allegations under section 9(1)(b) of the 1968 Act did not at least impliedly include "entering with intent".

Accordingly the requirements of section 6(3) were satisfied and the appeal would be dismissed. Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Brighton.

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And now, at long last, the *pièce de résistance* under hot Australian skies, the America's Cup final

## Conner should sail home with the Cup

While there are similarities between the campaigns of Dennis Conner the challenger, and the Australian team, the two protagonists shaping to battle it out for the America's Cup beginning today — to win one of the world's oldest sporting trophies, it is their differences that will provide the key to success.

Their similarities are Conner retained two boats from his earlier programme, *Liberty* and *Spirit*, then built three further boats — *Stars* and *Stripes* '85, '86 and '87. Based in Hawaii until August last year, his San Diego group have spent £18 million on their campaign. Iain Murray's Taskforce 10 group built three boats and have worked continuously to lift the performance of each one ahead of the other. Total budget £12m.

Their dissimilarities are in design approach. The Taskforce plan has been based closely on existing boats — an evolutionary rather than revolutionary approach — building up a data base of empirical knowledge backed up by tank test results. Kookaburra III is very similar in profile to 12-metre such

as Australia IV, Kookaburra II and White Crosser.

The Stars and Stripes design team, which numbered up to 18 people at times, began with a blank piece of paper and came up with very different solutions. While Kookaburra's designers have developed Ben Lexcen's wing keel concept to its highest form, increasing wing span to the maximum allowed under the 12-metre rule, the Stars and Stripes group, which include many of the best brains in the US aerospace and computer-related industries, have developed a very different hull shape together with a Roman-nosed keel sporting stubby Delta wings.

### Designers employed different approaches

Neither camp attended last year's 12-metre world championship in Fremantle. In the case of Kookaburra, political rather than practical considerations ruled but she later raced against other challengers such as America II, French Kiss and Azzurra III, giving outsiders an indication of their performance.



**HAROLD CUDMORE (left),** skipper of the British challenger for the America's Cup, with his assessment of the finalists, in this special article for *The Times*

Stars and Stripes was never tested against other boats until her arrival in Fremantle last August, so she remained a closely guarded secret.

However, they did send the American Olympic coach, Robert Hopkins, who aided Peter de Savary's challenge in 1983, and misquoting in *Victory* magazine, collected sufficient information on other challengers to suggest that the design programme they were pursuing was too biased towards heavy weather. They then hurriedly put together a new boat — Stars and Stripes '87 which was launched one

week before shipment to Fremantle.

### Conner's strength lies in his chosen team

The Stars and Stripes group's greatest strength lies in the quality of people. Conner has gathered around him a team of experienced sailors, a world champion in his own right and experienced 12-metre sailor. The design team is led by John Marshall, former president of North Sails Inc and mainmast hand aboard *Liberty* and

Freedom in former Cup campaigns. Tom Whidden, who took on Marshall's former post at North Sails this week, is the former managing director of Substad Sails and one of the most influential sailmakers in 12-metres.

A question mark hangs over the light air performance of Stars and Stripes, conditions that Kookaburra III is acknowledged to be fast in. This is best reviewed in the light of the American yacht's performance in the previous round-robin trials. Stars and Stripes certainly had a problem in light airs during the initial trials, a performance deficit that appeared to increase during the second round.

This brought a concerted effort to improve matters before the third round in December when the performance of Stars and Stripes was transformed decisively without hurrying her heavy air speed. Later, she beat USA 4-0 and New Zealand 4-1, displaying sufficient light air performance off the wind and even maintained a slight edge in wind strengths of 16 knots and upwards. Kookaburra III is a good all-rounder, holding an advantage below 15 knots and perhaps a disadvantage in wind strengths

above 24 knots. Both share a similar performance profile in the intermediate wind range.

This leads me to believe that the balance of probability rests in Stars and Stripes' favour and that Dennis Conner will win the Cup. The reasons are his near domination during the latter part of the Challenger trials, together with the results of his trials against Australia IV whom he beat convincingly, while Kookaburra had only a slight edge over New Zealand IV.

The one question mark is Kookaburra's improved performance against Australia IV in the final Defence trials.

### The scales are tipped in America's favour

This improvement was probably assisted by Peter Gilmour's presence on the boat as starting helmsman and stabilizing influence on tactics aboard. Kookaburra's final run against Australia IV was a fine performance and if her speed proves equal to Stars and Stripes, this best-of-seven series will doubtless prove a very close match.

## Light wind reports give early boost to Murray

From Keith Westley, Fremantle

Today's first race of the America's Cup final begins with the weather slightly favouring the Australian defender, Kookaburra III performs best in the lighter and middle air; Stars and Stripes prefers the heavier blows. Official forecasts are for 15 to 18 knot winds during the race.

"The high-level flow from the east will hold back the sea breeze," said Roger Badham, an Australian micro-climatologist who is the weather consultant to the Kookaburra syndicate. "It will be a good even breeze that will be 'in' before they start. The boats will cross the line in 15 to 16 knots, and should finish in around 18. There won't be many shifts."

Earlier yesterday, Dennis Conner, the skipper of Stars and Stripes, had indicated his own distinct preference for a little more oomph in the breeze.

"We like to have a good breeze," said Conner, who added that he was less anxious on the eve of this America's Cup than he had been in 1983. "The winds have been a little lighter than we would have liked in the past week."

His opponent, Iain Murray, was the more cavalier in his approach to the weather forecast, probably because it favoured his boat.

"We'd like to see a good, steady 25 knots, and the format of the course changed

so that we've got a weather beat all the way to Africa," he said.

### Bond sells both his boats to Japanese

Alan Bond, the millionaire who won the America's Cup for Australia in 1983, yesterday announced that he had sold his boats, Australia III and IV, plus their sails and maintenance gear, to a newly-formed Japanese syndicate based at the Bengal Bay Yacht Club, from Ise Bay, near Nagoya.

The syndicate, led by Masakazu Kohayashi, a powerful member of considerable private funds, have paid him US\$10m (£7m) for the equipment. The price includes consultancy from the Bond team on how to set up a challenge for the 1990 cup.

Asked whether it meant the end of his 16-year involvement with the America's Cup, Bond replied "Yes, in all probability."

However, the Swan Brewery Company, which he owns, is to be the major sponsor of the Japanese team, to the amount of US\$1.5m (£1m) over the next three years.

Later in the week, according to Badham, a stronger weather pattern will set in. "The indication of the Southern Hemisphere analysis is that we are into a long wave trough. That means a lot of

south-westerly breezes of 18 to 20 knots; probably one day of stronger weather, and one day of near calm."

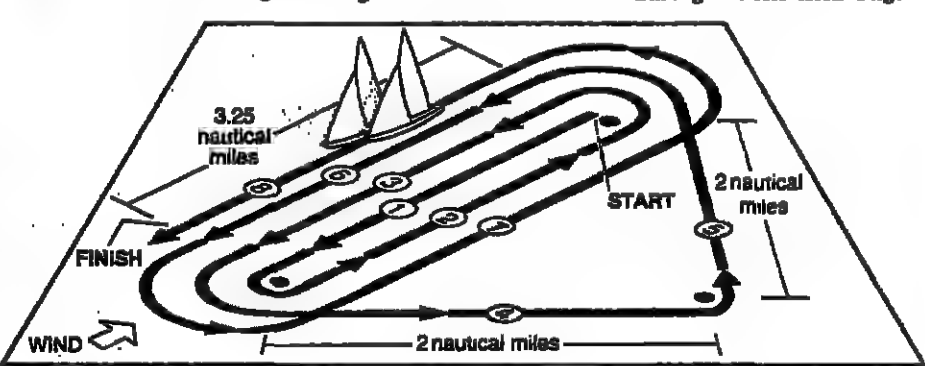
There are likely to be none of the winds that at 25 knots, gusting to 28, turn Stars and Stripes into a yacht of awesome firepower. The contest is likely to be more equal than any of the semi-finals or finals have been. "You'll see 90 per cent of the races decided by the first leeward mark," said Murray. Conner concurred with the prediction.

As always, the start will be crucial. "Kookaburra has an edge tacking and downwind," said Conner. "We hope to have enough of a lead at the windward mark to hold them off downwind."

Stars and Stripes is now in full flight, with the night of America rolling in behind the syndicate. The latter have telephone operators working 24 hours a day in the United States to take credit-card donations, and have whittled their budget deficit from US\$4 million down to \$3m in the past week.

For Conner and his team, the end is in sight but it is a mixed blessing. "We've been like brothers for the past two and a half years," said the bulky helmsman, who has won the cup twice previously. "Now all of this is going to be over in a week. It's kind of an interesting feeling."

Sailing into television: Page 9



Challenger: Conner, the most experienced 12m sailor ever?

### American who's who

**Skipper:** Dennis Conner, aged 44, San Diego, California. Won the America's Cup as skipper on *Freedom* in 1980, then lost the Auld Mug to Alan Bond's Australia II in 1983. One of the most experienced 12-metre sailors ever, having clocked up more than 10,000 hours behind the wheel.

**Tactician:** Tom Whidden, aged 39, New York. Sailed on *Freedom* and *Liberty* alongside Conner. Now President of North Sails Inc, one of the largest sailmaking companies in the world.

**Navigator:** Peter Isler, aged 31, Honolulu, Texas. Won the Congressional Cup, Coach to United States Olympic Games team, 1980-84.

**Mainmast trimmer:** Jon Wright, aged 38, Philadelphia. **Westmast:** John Barnett, aged 24, San Diego, California.



**Sewer:** Jay Brown, aged 28, Maryland.

**Grinders:** Jim Kavia, aged 26, Philadelphia; Henry Chiles, 24, Rhode Island; Kyle Smith, 31, New Orleans.

**Trimmers:** Adam Oatenfeld, aged 35, New York; Bill Tienkle, 28, New York.

**Bowman:** Scott Vogel, aged 28, New York.

**Details at a glance:** Stars and Stripes '87, United States of America. Syndicate: Sail America Foundation, Club: San Diego Yacht Club. Budget: £10 million. Sail No: US 55. Hull colour: Blue. Record: Won Challenger final series against New Zealand IV 4-1. Combined trials record: 35 wins, 8 defeats.



Defender: Murray, the more complete sailor technically?

### Australian who's who

**Skipper:** Iain Murray, aged 28, Sydney. Six times 18-foot Perth, King Sheridan, 28. **Etchells:** 22 world champion (1984). Australian Yachtsman of the Year (1985). One of the most complete sailors in the business. Quiet, retiring, but has nerves of steel and will remain impassive whatever the pressure.

**Tactician:** Derek Clark, aged 35, Britain. Developed a radical bendy rig for Britain's 1980 cup challenger, *Jonathan*. Won Victoria in 1983 cup trials. Took residence in Australia two years ago to compete aboard Kookaburra.

**Navigator:** Ian Burns, aged 25, Sydney. **Stardust helmsman/mainmast:** Peter Gilmour, aged 26, Perth. Skipper of Kookaburra II. Joined Murray aboard Kili for finals against Australia IV. **Sewer:** Tony Bellingham, aged 28, Sydney.



**Mainmast:** Greg Cawill, aged 28, Brisbane.

**Grinders:** Tony Rice, aged 24, Perth; Kim Sheridan, 28, Sydney; Greg Marr, 28, Queensland; Darren Bracewell, 24, Perth.

**Trimmers:** Paul Westlake, aged 25, Sydney; Denis Jones, 20, Perth.

**Bowman:** Don McCracken, aged 26, Esperance, WA. **Details at a glance:** Kookaburra III, Australia. Syndicate: Taskforce 10 Club. Royal Perth Yacht Club. Budget: £12 million. Sail No: KA 15. Hull colour: Gold. Record: Won defenders' final series against Australia IV, 5-0. Combined trials record: 32 wins, 8 defeats.

### FENCING

## Thurley's Olympic ambition

By a Correspondent

Linda Martin, the Commonwealth gold medal winner at the British open competitions at Leicester and Ashton, and Liz Thurley, last year's De Beaumont Cup winner and current British champion, will face serious challenges this weekend in the country's top international women's foil event.

The most serious challenge among the 100 competitors comes from Canada, who have entered their Commonwealth champions team, including Madeleine Phillion, the Edinburgh bronze medal winner. The other 20 foreign fencers from West Germany, France, Denmark, Sweden, Spain and Australia however will also be hard to beat.

The entry also bodes well for the event's "new look": a change of venue to the Swiss Cottage centre, and a gala final tomorrow with commentary to make the sport more suitable for spectators.

For Mrs Thurley, aged 29, and Fiona McIntosh, aged 26, run-up in the national championships, the De Beaumont marks the start of their attempt to gain Olympic medals, for they have just elected to work part-time to undertake a concentrated schedule until Seoul. This will enable them to compete on equal terms with their continental counterparts whose success is earned through their high level of sponsored training time.

### Race for Ritchie

Andy Ritchie, the Leeds United forward, is doubtful for Sunday's FA Cup tie at Swindon because of an ankle injury.

### The girl who declined to represent Britain in Sarajevo gives her reasons

## Misery of the forgotten skater

From Michael Coleman Sarajevo

The last time we were in Sarajevo was the Winter Olympics of 1984. A gold medal in the ice dance was such a certainty that somebody with the headlines in mind hit on the brilliant idea of giving the Torvill and Dean triumph that royal touch.

Princess Anne was conducted into the stadium and parked between Jayne and Chris as the British couple, their *Boles* done, sat among the crowd at rink-side to watch their main rivals fight out the lesser medals. It worked. Television, the lights, the cameras and much of the media focussed on the British trackskater and golden girl.

There will be nothing resembling a Torvill and Dean show and no need to call in Princess Anne when the European ice figure skating championships start here on Monday. Joanne Conway, who at 15 has been provided with the best that money can buy, has fallen victim to that skater's curse which her Calgary-focused backers overlooked, namely injury. We are left with two dance couples without a hope, a heroic pair with the bad luck of having been born in the wrong country and 15-year-old Gina Fulton.

It had been a lifetime (16 years of it) of frustration, disappointment, and neglect leading up to tonight's misery, she says. It was not worth the effort to go to Sarajevo and skate for Britain.

all that has gone before in the form of John Curry, Robin Cousins and T and D, can be gained by talking to the articulate and level-headed Miss Hamilton who is an artistic as opposed to an up and down the rink, performer.



Hamilton: level-headed

She recalls that no official congratulated her after she came second to Miss Conway at the Sothill nationals in November. After a year off through injury she had been forgotten. She was no longer on the scene. It was hoped she had disappeared to make way for the kids with all the jumps but about as much artistry and expression as a pair of wet socks.

perent and, even worse, indifferent National Skating Association officials. As a girl — indeed a woman — who, since learning to skate at four, has gone through all the grades and is on the brink of taking the NSA gold medal test, the ultimate award, her views, not without prompting, must be listened to.

They echo what others, still in competition or still dependent on the NSA, such as coaches with skaters awaiting tests, will tell you, though, in the case of Zagreb, the coaches, not knowing what the judges want and vice-versa.

"I've only been three times abroad, to The Hague, to Moscow, to Zagreb but each time I had to pay the fares and hotel of my coach or, in the case of Zagreb, my mother as my trainer. Frances Waghorn, could not come as it was at 24 hours notice."

Nobody had informed her that her training grant was being stopped after she was injured. The cheques just stopped coming. She had suffered several injuries, the last being acquired during one of the periodic "screenings" conducted by the NSA off-season. "After placing third in the 1985 nationals to Conway and Karen Wood I had to take time off to get on with my 'A' levels. Just before my mocks the NSA insisted I show my full programme for next season at this screening. I had not trained

sufficiently, and I fell, tearing ankle ligaments which were to take months to heal."

According to Miss Hamilton the officials' response was "Too bad, tell us when you're better." The injury cost her the whole of the 1986 season but she got no sympathy. "For years she had looked for a sponsor, her mother writing hundreds of letters but to no avail. An offer of a car was banned by the NSA because the sponsor wanted his name on it. In the end, the sports promotion agency that had tried to help her find sponsors offered to support her herself, out of its own pocket. But this offer, sent to the NSA, was apparently lost. When the letter was found, the British championships had already been held and she had decided to retire. The cheque was sent back."

Now she had started a four-year course in osteopathy which she could not interrupt for competition as she was already late doing it. Her whole life had been tailored to skating, from 6am or even earlier doing figure patches, at lunchtime sessions and in the evenings too. Her school had made allowances. She had scraped by in the end with B.C. D grades at A levels. "They wanted me to try for four As but I just could not cope with that and the skating."

Miss Hamilton said she loved skating but had now no enthusiasm left to compete. But she still intended to try to take the NSA gold medal test in March or April, even though she knew she was sticking out her neck with these comments.

### RUGBY LEAGUE

## Back to earth with big bump for Stephenson

By Keith Macklin

For the second time in two days David Stephenson, the Wigan and Great Britain centre, has discovered the harsh facts of life when competing for places in a select team.

Only 24 hours after being named as substitute for Great Britain against France, Stephenson became the odd man out in Wigan's plethora of talent, and is substituting at Oldham in the first round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup.

Gregory and Edwards will resume their productive partnership at half back, which will be given an international airing at Carracas, with Hanes and Bell at centre, although Graham Lowe, the coach, can field any number of permutations of this versatile and talented back division.

The one remaining amateur club, Heworth of York, stand a more than reasonable chance of creating history by reaching the second round. They visit Mansfield Marksmen, the struggling second division outpost club at Alfreton, and may well spring a surprise.

Salford, who have revived of late, and soundly beat Hull last weekend, are another lively club capable of getting through, but they will find Leeds, under their new coach Maurice Bamford, in confident mood after that big win over Widnes.

### WEIGHTLIFTING

## Poles select strong team

Poland will send their World Cup team for the one-day international against Britain in Manchester next Saturday — their first since meeting China in 1978 (Chris Thauwites). The Poles are led by Jacek Gutowski.

Great Britain will play their tie against Wakefield Triangles at Blackpool's football ground.

The draw pairs sides for whom entry into the second round could prove a financial blessing and a playing boost. These matches include Huddersfield v Whitehaven, Rochdale Hornets v Carlisle, Runcorn Highfield v Leigh, and Sheffield Eagles v Keighley, while Hull Kingston Rovers can exact revenge from Doncaster for their John Player defeat.

Castledown began their defence of the cup today against Widnes, the one-time cup kings who are slipping out of contention in the major trophies and were last week soundly thrashed by Leeds.

## In the shadow of the Giants



New York

There are certain universals in sport. Walking out of Madison Square Garden after watching the New York Rangers ice hockey men losing at home to the less-than-distinguished Winnipeg Jets, I was powerfully reminded of leaving the Hawthorns after West Bromwich Albion had been knocked out of the FA Cup by Plymouth Argyle.

The spectators had exactly the same calm and disinterested loathing of their own team.

"That was not a hockey game!" — "If you think those guys can play hockey, you are sick!" The New York Mets won baseball's World Series, the New York Giants won the Super Bowl, but the New York Rangers are losers.

New York is not a city in which people say: "Well never mind, they did their best and anyway it's only a game." Nor do the Rangers themselves take it stoically.

Ice hockey is supposed to be famous for its fights so it was something of a shock to watch a game in which the players did not once take off their padded gauntlets and get stuck into each other.

However, the Winnipeg general manager, John Ferguson, who was formerly with the Rangers, and the Rangers general manager and coach, Phil Esposito, did their best to make good this lack of action.

It was not their fault that they didn't come to blows: the security men insisted on stopping them. "I'm going to drill you right now," Ferguson, the Oscar Wilde of ice hockey, was heard to remark.

### New York's no place for losers

"He threatened to punch me and Joey Bucchino," Esposito said afterwards. "I liked him when he was here. If it wasn't for me he wouldn't have had a job."

Alas, life is never simple. Esposito was upset when Ferguson called him "a rookie coach." Who wouldn't be? Esposito doesn't even want to be the coach.

At the start of the season, Tom Webster was the coach and Esposito was the general manager. But this could not continue because Webster's ear has exploded. The poor chap has had to have two very nasty inner ear operations, and they haven't worked. He got on an aeroplane the other day, and promptly had a relapse.

So that has meant that Webster now cannot fly at all. And in American sport that is a disaster. You fly to all your away fixtures. Esposito, sighing like a furnace, decided that the only thing to do was to coach himself.

He made the decision on the day of the game against Winnipeg Jets. The first thing that happened was that his pipes burst at home. This was probably the high spot of his day. Certainly things went downhill sharply from there.

### Temperatures hot as coaches clash

It was unfortunate that his first match as coach should involve his long time enemy, Ferguson of the Jets. Ferguson is apparently a man with a taste for feeding. As a player, he was not known for his restraint; in his career he managed a spectacular total of 1,214 penalty minutes.

Bucchino, the Rangers' assistant coach, described the scene: "Ferguson was rapping my boss, and I was trying to stand up for him. Then he started to come after me. I wanted a stick. What, am I going to get into a fight with that monster?"

Esposito said: "No, we're not feeding. I don't know what his problem is." Though to tell the truth, it is not Ferguson's problem that is his real problem at the moment.

It is the problem with his team. The Rangers are now fourth in their division of six, level on points with the team below, and a single point clear of the bottom club.

The place, the game and the nature of the drama may all be alien, but the despair of the coach is another of sport's universals. So is the most reckless optimism.

Don Maloney, one of the Rangers' players, said: "Phil Esposito is the motivator. Tommy Webster will come up with the master game plan. I think this will work for the better." A York curls a cynical lip and releases its next set of jibes. Just as they did at West Bromwich.











SKIING: SWISS BELLS SOUND FOR VICTORIOUS OLD FAVOURITE

# Hess to bow out after a decade of dominance

From David Miller  
Chief Sports Correspondent  
Crans Montana

Switzerland drew first blood of the world alpine championships, in their unending skiing feud with Austria. Erika Hess, the slalom specialist, as expected, retained the combined event title she won at Santa Caterina in 1985, finishing third in yesterday's downhill, over one second and nine places ahead of Tamara McKinney, of the United States, the leader of Thursday's combined slalom. With Sylvia Eder, of Austria, second, the medal winners were an exact repetition of 1985.

The Swiss are an odd lot. The Erika Fan Club from her home at Grafenort descended the mountain after the race thumping their huge cow bells on their thighs and as mournful looking as if they were attending a funeral.

The significance of the event was also perhaps reflected in the blank faces of the medal winners at the press conference when they looked as excited as if they had just caught a bus for which they had been waiting four days - as indeed we all have.

Victory, Miss Hess said flatly, was something she had expected. Well, she would, her exploits, including over 30 victories, fill two pages of the *World Cup Year Book*. She won three gold medals in the 1982 world championships which, she modestly said, was unexpected. Now she would retire after 10 seasons at the top.

However, as the Swiss open their bedroom windows this morning, cast their duvets over the sill to air in the sunshine and turn on their



Hess celebrates her victory in the combined event

television for the awaited downhill triumph of Pirmin Zurbriggen, they could be in for a rude surprise. Dieter Bartsch, the chief coach of the Austrian men's team, expects something different.

The Austrian press has been calling for Bartsch's head, rather than the bell tolled for Sir Alf Ramsey in 1973. And Bartsch has yet to produce one winning team, never mind two. Yesterday, despite Switzerland filling the first three places - Heinzer, Müller, Cathomen - in the final downhill training run, he forecast that Helmut Höflehner will win the prized gold medal.

"I think the medals will go to Höflehner, Müller and another Austrian, Stock," he said provocatively.

me as chief coach is the time I have to spend fending it off, dealing with the press, which detracts from real work."

His words sound like most coaches in most sports: the public, he says, must show more patience. After the failures two years ago, it took the following season to begin to make a mark. The teams' skiing was great, in his opinion, but the results did not come. They will, he insists.

"It may take until next year in Calgary, to achieve the full effect from our coaches," he says. "I think we should win four or five medals here (from 15 in five events) and seven in Calgary. That's a high aim, but you must go for something."

He points to the improvement that has been achieved with Bernhard Gstrein, who leads after one discipline of the combined event and a number of improving youngsters. "We have many waiting in the back yard," he says.

He is unworried by yesterday's slower training performance by Erwin Resch, who was second at Kitzbühel last Sunday. Resch is holding back, he says, finding the places to attack.

WOMEN'S COMBINED (Swiss unless stated): 1. Hess (AUT), 1:24.81; 2. Eder (AUT), 1:25.31; 3. Eder (AUT), 1:25.31; 4. Eder (AUT), 1:25.31; 5. Eder (AUT), 1:25.31; 6. Eder (AUT), 1:25.31; 7. Eder (AUT), 1:25.31; 8. Eder (AUT), 1:25.31; 9. Eder (AUT), 1:25.31; 10. Eder (AUT), 1:25.31.

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HOCKEY

## Southgate call off their HA Cup game

By Sydney Friskin

Southgate, the holders, have postponed their first round match in the Hockey Association Cup against Lewes tomorrow. Half their players have been engaged in the two-day Lada InterCity indoor tournament at Crystal Palace which ends today and they thought that the strain of playing three days in a row would take too much out of them.

However, they will go ahead with both their weekend fixtures, against Richmond today in the premier division of the Pizza Express London League and against Trejans in the Hockey Association Cup tomorrow. A total of 128 clubs are due to play in the first round of the Hockey Association Cup tomorrow and as far as was known yesterday afternoon only two clubs had backed for a postponement. Southgate against Lewes and Liverpool Schom against Neaton.

Nissar Choudhry, who was in the Birmingham team for the Crystal Palace indoor tournament, will be back in time to play for Pickwick in the Cup first round game tomorrow against South Notts. Also available for Pickwick are Simon Burrows and Dahir Siddiq, both players in the Birmingham team.

Today's match in the premier division of the Sun Life West League between Evesham and Bath Buccaneers has been postponed, but Ica, none of whose players were injured at Crystal Palace, will play Evesham today in the League and Exeter University tomorrow in the Cup.

Ben Lawry, who played centre half for the Hockey Association in the 1-1 draw against Oxford University on Tuesday, is in the local side, so, are their two main boys, Robert and Graham Skinner.

All tomorrow's first round matches in the Hockey Association Cup are being played on a zonal basis and the surviving teams will go into an open draw for the second round, which is expected to be announced on Monday.

**Brighton-bound**  
Southampton and Brighton have agreed a nominal fee for the 1-1 draw against Oxford University on Tuesday, the utility player, aged 20.

FOOTBALL

## Caton's move to Oxford is subject to a medical

Arsenal's former England under-21 international, Tommy Caton, joined Oxford United yesterday for £80,000. The move is subject to a satisfactory medical on Monday.

The Oxford manager, Maurice Evans, is switching his search now for a new goalkeeper to replace Alan Judge who is to have a cartilage operation after damaging a knee in a reserve game against Arsenal on Wednesday.

Norwich City's midfield player, Gary Brooke, is to join the Dundee club on loan, for a transfer fee believed to be around £30,000. The former Tottenham Hotspur player, aged 26, has the formalities of the deal to complete before Norwich release his registration.

Mick D'Avray, Ipswich Town's South African-born forward, will next week join Leicester City as a month's loan.

Aston Villa's manager, Billy McNeill, with money to spend after the transfer of Steve Ridge

to Tottenham, has failed to sign the Hearts' left-back, John Robertson. McNeill's offer, in the region of £250,000, fell a long way short of Hearts' valuation of the Scottish under-21 international who scored 20 League goals last season.

Hearts' co-manager, Sandy Jardine, said yesterday that the club had received an offer from Villa but said: "He was too low even to consider. We want the player to stay at Tynecastle as long as possible."

Football League permission to postpone their third division match at Middlesbrough today because of a gastric flu epidemic at the club.

Jim Beggs, a broken leg victim, has talked for the first time about the injury he received in last week's

Littlewoods Cup clash with Everton. The Liverpool left-back had not spoken publicly since the Goodison Park collision with Gary Stevens.

Beggs, aged 23, said: "I have had time to think over it. I just remember going into a tackle and feeling sorry for the other player. I didn't pass out." Beggs also thanked Stevens for visiting him in hospital.

Jack Charlton, the Republic of Ireland manager, again overlooked the claims of Arsenal's central defender, David O'Leary, for the European Championship match against Scotland at Hampden Park on February 18, when he announced an 18-man panel for the match yesterday.

Walsall v Birmingham City  
City's goalkeeper, who has scored in every round, is having intensive treatment for an ankle injury. However, a former Birmingham player, stands by. Mowbray returns from suspension. Clarke, Birmingham's top scorer, returns from suspension, probably in place of Dickie, a regular side. Owsen, 34, again, may be substitute.

**Stoke City v Cardiff City**  
Stoke expect to announce an unchanged side for the 13th consecutive game. Palace fear they could be without Irvine (back) and Ketteridge (hamstring) but O'Leary should recover from a groin injury.

**Tottenham Hotspur v Crystal Palace**  
Tottenham must choose between Hodge and Ardies in midfield. Gashick's place depends on whether an attacking formation, including Chasen, is selected. Stevens is also in the squad of 15. Palace fear they could be without Irvine (back) and Ketteridge (hamstring) but O'Leary should recover from a groin injury.

**Wigan Athletic v Norwich City**  
Buttner, recovered from a muscle strain, is expected to return to the team.

**Wimbledon v Portsmouth**  
Wimbledon, back to full strength, decide between Sawyer and Cork as to who partners Fashanu in attack. Portsmouth should be unchanged.

**FA Cup fourth round**  
Aldershot v Barnsley  
McDonald, Aldershot's club captain, misses out for the third game this season but King is set to return. Burvill is doubtful with a thigh injury. Joyce, Barnsley's captain, is hoping to return after two months absence.

**Bradford City v Everton**  
Bradford City's goalkeeper, Van der Ven, is set to return. Sharp and Allwright for a recall to an Everton side minus Sheedy. Bradford are unchanged.

**Chester City v Sheffield Wednesday**  
Chester are confident that Bennett, their top scorer, who has a calf strain, will be fit. Stewart and Rimmer have overcome their injury problems. Morris takes over from the injured Garsdale for Wednesday. Cooper returns to the club's record of 189 consecutive appearances, set by Mark Hooper, 1929 to 32.

**Newcastle United v Preston North End**  
Newcastle are without Beardsley, Cunningham, who has not played in three months, or Thomas, the leading scorer, who has a calf strain. McGovern returns after injury. Thomas, Williams and Hildesley have all passed fitness tests for Preston, who choose from 15.

**Brighton-bound**  
Southampton and Brighton have agreed a nominal fee for the 1-1 draw against Oxford University on Tuesday, the utility player, aged 20.

**Southgate call off their HA Cup game**  
Southgate, the holders, have postponed their first round match in the Hockey Association Cup against Lewes tomorrow. Half their players have been engaged in the two-day Lada InterCity indoor tournament at Crystal Palace which ends today and they thought that the strain of playing three days in a row would take too much out of them.

**Caton's move to Oxford is subject to a medical**  
Arsenal's former England under-21 international, Tommy Caton, joined Oxford United yesterday for £80,000. The move is subject to a satisfactory medical on Monday.

**Hess to bow out after a decade of dominance**  
Switzerland drew first blood of the world alpine championships, in their unending skiing feud with Austria. Erika Hess, the slalom specialist, as expected, retained the combined event title she won at Santa Caterina in 1985, finishing third in yesterday's downhill, over one second and nine places ahead of Tamara McKinney, of the United States, the leader of Thursday's combined slalom. With Sylvia Eder, of Austria, second, the medal winners were an exact repetition of 1985.

**Sportsworld has two weeks to find new owner**  
Sportsworld is looking for a new owner after the announcement by Robert Maxwell of the closure in two weeks' time of the magazine which began publication early last September (John Goodbody writes).

Tim Batstone, the publisher, said yesterday: "I am hopeful it will continue being published because I believe in its future. We have two weeks to find a suitable financial support. It is a good project, with a circulation of 30 to 45,000 and

£120,000 worth of advertising bookings for 1987."

Maxwell, whose British Printing and Communications Corporation owned Sportsworld, said the closure was caused by the failure to find a replacement for its editor, Roger Kelly.

Kelly, who resigned to join *The Times* as managing editor (Sport), said yesterday: "It is a project which should have been one of the great 'Caravats' for sports journalism. The idea of

combining outstanding writing and pictures should have been something that hung around for years."

"Although I have not been involved with the magazine for some weeks, the news is a great disappointment to me. Still, I am looking forward to joining *The Times*."

The magazine, which has published detailed coverage and many striking photographs of many major events, probably needed several years to establish

itself with an increased amount of money needed for promotion.

*Sport Illustrated*, the American sports magazine, with a circulation of over two million, took 11 years before it began to make money.

Sportsworld has also faced the problem that sports goods companies are initially reluctant to advertise in general sports magazines when so many specialist specialist publications are available.

**WEEKEND FOOTBALL AND OTHER FIXTURES**

**FA Cup**  
Third round  
Shrewsbury v Hull  
Third round replay  
West Ham v Orient

**Fourth round**  
Aldershot v Barnsley  
Aldershot v Barnsley  
Bradford City v Everton  
Chester City v Sheffield Wed  
Luton v QPR  
Manchester Utd v Coventry  
Newcastle v Preston  
Stoke v Cardiff  
Tottenham v Crystal Palace  
Wigan v Norwich  
Wimbledon v Portsmouth

**Full Members Cup**  
Fourth round  
Manchester City v Ipswich

**First division**  
Charlton v Nottingham F

**Second division**  
Barnet v Oxford  
Reading v Sunderland

**Third division**  
Blackpool v Doncaster  
Bristol v Bournemouth  
Bristol City v Chesterfield  
Mansfield v Bristol R  
Notts Co v Darlington  
Rotherham v Bury  
York v Vale

**Fourth division**  
Barnet v Watford  
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**Scottish FA Cup**  
Third round  
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# Injury crisis may force Hollins to play Dixon

By Clive White

It is not a good time for John Hollins, the Chelsea manager, to be back in the public eye tomorrow. Just when he could have done with a little quiet convalescence — Chelsea have lost only once in their last seven games — he steps back into television spotlight at a time of further disruption, not all of it of his own making.

Chelsea, who face Watford in an FA Cup fourth round tie before the ITV cameras at Vicarage Road, could be without seven key players, through injury, and another whose pride has been so badly hurt that he has expressed a wish never to play for the club again.

Kerry Dixon, the England centre forward, who asked to go on the transfer list on Tuesday after being dropped and then discovering that the club were attempting to buy another centre forward, has been included by Hollins in the squad for a match of enormous importance to the London club.

Knocked prematurely out of the Littlewoods Cup in the most humiliating fashion by Cardiff City, a fourth division



FA CUP

club, and still in the midst of a relegation struggle, Hollins was never more in need of solidarity at the club.

Yet Dixon, the club's leading goalscorer since his arrival from Reading, was reported yesterday as saying: "It's not a question of trying to play my way back into the team. Things have gone too far for me now. I want to leave as quickly as possible and I don't mind where I go." He added: "I'm left now not even wanting to play for the first team, even if the manager wanted to put me back in."

When Hollins was asked yesterday if he thought Dixon was in the right frame of mind to play, he replied: "I don't know." Much will depend upon the fitness of Speedie before Hollins can assess the condition of Dixon's mind. Speedie barely trained yesterday because of a hamstring injury. He said that Dixon's transfer request would have no effect on whether he played. "They are my players."

I either pick them or I don't." He will certainly not be able to pick McLaughlin, who has been ruled out by injury. Niedzwiecki, who could not play at Norwich last week because of a knee injury, is still troubled and the most unlikely of the others to be fit. Hollins is hoping that the extra day's rest will enable Pates, the captain, to recover from a calf injury and Hazard, a thigh injury. Murphy and McAllister are also unavailable because of long-term injuries.

By comparison Watford are a picture of health, though Barnes, their influential England winger, will require a fitness test on an ankle. He has been suffering from tendonitis but Watford are optimistic.

Luton Town, another club seldom out of the limelight for one reason or another, at least should expect no gripes from the opposition this time should they win. Their opponents on Kenilworth Road's controversial surface are fellow plastic pitch pioneers, Queen's Park Rangers. Nor do Luton have any reason to contemplate defeat having never lost to Rangers since becoming the first side to win

on artificial surface some years ago at Loftus Road.

This will be Luton's fourth game in eight days — three of them on the plastic, which can be particularly demanding on the limbs. Hill is already a possible casualty, having twisted a knee in the third round replay with Liverpool on Wednesday. Jim Smith, the Rangers manager, has great respect for his rivals and friends. "I fully expected them to beat Liverpool," he said.

## QPR buy expensive new pitch

Queen's Park Rangers are to spend £375,000 on a new plastic pitch as football starts its search for the ideal synthetic surface.

League chairmen have agreed to a three-year freeze on the artificial explosion but they have left the way clear for the quartet of clubs already converted to lay improved pitches.

Rangers will be the first this summer and their spokesman, Denis Signy, said: "It will be the most up-to-date — and expensive — in the world." Rangers, the plastic pitch pioneers, are currently on their second artificial surface but it has still provoked a great deal of criticism.

Luton Town's carpet was rolled out on a two-year trial, and the League secretary, Graham Kelly, has made it clear that they will have to apply for an extension at the end of this season regardless of the EGM decision.

"There is an onus on Luton to re-apply and an onus on the management committee to determine any application which they receive," Kelly said. "I wouldn't say permission will be extended automatically."

The League will want to ensure that the Luton surface meets strict guidelines, especially as a recent BBC test suggested it was 40 per cent too firm.

"It was perfectly all right at the end of last season, but maybe it's now a case of remedial work being carried out," a club official said. "We would like to know whether the BBC test allowed for the frosty conditions."

Luton, meanwhile, do not expect any problem in continuing their plastic experiment. "As far as we are concerned this week's vote has given us the go-ahead to co-operate fully in a research programme for the next three years," the official continued. Preston North End and Oldham Athletic also have synthetic pitches.

**Poli confirms entry**  
Los Angeles (AFP) — Gianni Poli of Italy, surprising winner of the 1986 New York Marathon, has confirmed that he will take part in the Los Angeles Marathon here on March 1. The race will feature around 12,000 competitors.

## ATHLETICS

## Ridgeon takes on Nehemiah alone

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

One of the young pretenders crosses hurdles with the king tomorrow. Jon Ridgeon, who won the AAA 60 metres indoor title last week, is to meet, for the first time, Renaldo Nehemiah, the world 110 metres record holder, in Stuttgart. Nehemiah is making a flying visit to Germany after racing in the Millrose Games at Madison Square Garden early this morning (British time).

The pity is that Colin Jackson, Ridgeon's great rival, whom many people are tipping as the successor to Nehemiah, has had to pull out of the Stuttgart meet. After beating Ridgeon to the inaugural world 110m junior title last year and winning the Commonwealth silver medal, Jackson was kept out of the European championships by a hamstring injury.

Although he says it has not restricted his mobility, the continuous ache since then has caused Jackson to seek medication. He has had two cortisone injections and his doctor has advised him not to race.

But there will still be enormous interest in how Ridgeon, who is aged almost 20, the same as Jackson, fares against Nehemiah. The American dominated high hurdling in the late 1970s and set a world record of 12.93 seconds for the 110m in 1981, which no one has approached since.

But Nehemiah was tempted into American football and, after four unsuccessful years as a wide receiver for the San Francisco 49ers, he was recruited by the International Amateur Athletic Federation

## Becker's plan

Monte Carlo, (Reuters) — The Wimbledon champion, Boris Becker, yesterday looked forward to life with his new coach, Frank Dick, who has replaced Gunther Bosch. "His methods are quite different from Bosch's and I believe three or four months will be necessary to assess the first effects of his long-term work," Becker said.



Close encounter: Sherwan (left) and Leman collide as Birmingham attack (photograph: Ian Stewart)

## Lyle opens in style amid rain

From John Ballantine, Pebble Beach

Sandy Lyle scored a fine opening 68 at Spy Glass Hill in the AT and T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am tournament and, with three rounds to be played by Sunday, the Scot has a real chance to win, or at least finish highly-placed, in the fourth and last tournament of his short, early campaign in the United States.

The 1985 Open champion stood on the green behind the clubhouse, Rex Caldwell. He said later: "Of course, I should be getting my game together after playing for a month solid. My confidence is definitely coming back."

It ill-befits a correspondent to berate a tournament's shortcomings, but it was ironic that, in an event newly-sponsored by a telephone company, the communications should be almost the worst on record.

For nearly one hour after Lyle had finished at the distant Spy Glass, his score was posted as 67.

Also, darkness had long fallen before anyone knew at headquarters what Greg Norman, the Open champion and one of the favourites here, had scored.

Lyle began at the 10th and got out in 35, scoring three birdies but three-putting the 15th green from 30 feet and missing a chip at the 16th. Afterwards, he admitted that being able to lift, clean and place the ball on the water-soaked fairways was a distinct advantage.

Security guards were given instructions to be extra vigilant and the house lights, which are usually put on at dusk, were kept on at a

## SNOOKER

## Meo goes through by slimmest margin

By a Special Correspondent

Doug Mountjoy left the final black in the deciding frame hanging invitingly over the pocket. Tony Meo gratefully accepted the opportunity to record a 5-4 win and go into the semi-finals of the £200,000 Benson and Hedges Masters Tournament at Wembley Conference Centre.

An intriguing tussle had favoured at first one player and then the other with Meo, the current English professional champion, at his best in the fourth and fifth frames that saw him come from 2-1 down to take a 3-2 lead.

He won the fourth frame on the pink after Mountjoy had held the early advantage and seemed to have little chance of adding to his tally when the Welshman opened up a 63-1 lead in the fifth. But a superb 66 clearance gave the Londoner the frame on the black and the lead for the first time since he had won the opening

frame.

Meo was full of sympathy for his beaten opponent. "I don't think anyone has ever played better than Doug did today and lost a snooker match," he said. "A draw would have been the only fair result, but, of course, we can't have draws."

QUARTER-FINALS: T Meo vs D Mountjoy 5-4. Frame scores (Meo first): 77-31, 55-30, 63-35, 67-38, 6-75, 12-111, 101-6, 45-43.

Further goals by Murphy, Sherwan, and Knott put Birmingham 8-4 ahead and in the closing minutes Southampton scored twice through Lawson and Leman.

Bristol beat Hull 7-4 in Group B. Bristol led 5-0 at half-time through goals by Purchase, Hill, Tredgett, Nicholson, and Tredgett again. Hull scored through Wake and Stamp, but Purchase and Bristol scored a goal each for Bristol after goal Stamp and Wake helped Hull to reduce the lead to 7-4.

RESULTS: Pool A: Birmingham 8, Southampton 5, Norwich 5, London South 4, Pool B: Bristol 7, Hull 4, London North 10, Manchester 5.

Weekend preview, page 44

## SPORT IN BRIEF

## Thorne is dismissed

Ross Thorne, the world No. 4 squash player, has been sacked by his club, Arrow Village of Manchester, after failing to turn up for a key match on Tuesday. Lying bottom of the American Express Premier League, Arrow were scheduled to play Manchester Northern and hoped to be at full strength.

Although the Australian's manager, Geoff Poole, had promised that Thorne — who has played only one match for the club this season — would be available, the player pulled out because he was competing in a tournament in Belgium.

## Checking up

FISA, the International Motor Sports Federation, is to undertake more stringent checks to ensure rally cars conform with world championship rules. Their response follows complaints from the Mazda team that the Italian Lancia Deltas failed to conform with the rules at the recent Monte Carlo rally.

## Champion out

Sarajevo, Yugoslavia (Reuters) — Czechoslovakia's Josef Sabovcik, the men's champion, has pulled out of next week's European figure skating championships. Although no reason was given, he is believed to have a recurrence of knee problems which have plagued him throughout his career.

## Bowing out

Alec Weeks, BBC TV's top backroom man in sport for 25 years, directs his last match today — one of the three FA Cup-ties being screened to-night — and then retires after 45 years with the Corporation he joined as a 14-year-old on 52 pence a week. He bows out as Match Of The Day returns on Saturday night for the first time since last May. Since 1980 he has been the BBC's main planner of major sports coverage including the Olympics, World Cups, European, and Commonwealth Games.

## Early cover

Gloucestershire have signed the Barbadian pace bowler Victor Green on a two-year contract. The West Indies B team player was spotted by county captain David Graveney when he was on a benefit tour three months ago, and has been signed as cover for Courtney Walsh, who is likely to be touring England with the West Indies in 1988.

## Good deal

Brett Hodgekin, Britain's world junior water ski champion for slalom, has received a timely double boost to help him stay in the sport — a £2,500 training grant from the Sports Aid Trust and a two-year sponsorship deal with the O'Brien ski company.

## Missing

Sussex County Cricket Club supporters will miss the "Cow Shed" this coming season.

## City tale of three Taylors

By Sydney Friskin

The first match in the Lads Inter-City indoor hockey championship at Crystal Palace yesterday was a story of three Taylors. Ian Taylor and Nick Taylor, who are unrelated, were in goal for Southampton, and Steve Taylor kept goal for Birmingham. Southampton were beaten 8-6 in Group A.

Ian Taylor was in action in the first half for Southampton and at half-time they led 4-3. Cliff, van Asselt from a penalty stroke. Head, and Leman from a corner, having scored for Southampton. Mallett, Knott, and Simon Bostock for Birmingham who had scored first.

Nick Taylor took over from Ian Taylor in the second-half and conceded five goals under rising pressure from Birmingham. Steve Taylor saved a penalty stroke from van Asselt in the second half and almost immediately Sherwan set up a chance for Partington to level the score at 4-4.

Further goals by Murphy, Sherwan, and Knott put Birmingham 8-4 ahead and in the closing minutes Southampton scored twice through Lawson and Leman.

Bristol beat Hull 7-4 in Group B. Bristol led 5-0 at half-time through goals by Purchase, Hill, Tredgett, Nicholson, and Tredgett again. Hull scored through Wake and Stamp, but Purchase and Bristol scored a goal each for Bristol after goal Stamp and Wake helped Hull to reduce the lead to 7-4.

RESULTS: Pool A: Birmingham 8, Southampton 5, Norwich 5, London South 4, Pool B: Bristol 7, Hull 4, London North 10, Manchester 5.

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## ROWING

## Pressure grows on president

By Jim Railton

Donald Macdonald, president of the troubled Oxford Boat Race crew, last night faced a new stage of the rebellion against him, with some college captains questioning his handling of the crisis.

When Macdonald returned home last night from training at Marlow, he found a note had been pushed through his door. It read: "We, the undersigned, captains of college rowing in the University of Oxford, hereby call for an extraordinary meeting of the captains of boats, allowed under the Oxford University Boat Club constitution, to be held at the earliest possible date."

The note had been signed by the captains of boats of Balliol, Oriel, St Benet's Hall, St Peter's College, Corpus Christi and Wadham.

It is the captains of college boats, together with resident crews, who actually elect the president of Oxford University Boat Club. They elected Macdonald to the presidency during the 1986 Trinity term.

Quite clearly, this request for an extraordinary meeting is hardly to pat Macdonald on the back or acknowledge the intolerable strain on the president and his family, but rather a move for a vote of no confidence in him.

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